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Crewkerne
WEEKENDER

Issue 31 April 29 2011

Marathon mum

see page 3

Your complete leisure guide to the weekend in South Somerset

Classics at the Mill

- page 12

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weekenderannouncements

11 — Joshua Northover
Happy 11th Birthday on 28th. Love from Grandad and Granny xx

85 — Happy 85th Birthday
Bob Connett
28/04/2011
Love from all your family

18 — Happy 18th Birthday
Kristie Thacker
Lots of love, Mum and Dad

In loving memory of my beautiful sister Catharine Farrar-Hockley 2/9/1973 - 30/4/2008. I miss you more than words can say. Love always, Verity xxx

40 — Happy Birthday
Nick Edwardes
the big 40! Ha! Ha!
Love Mum and Philip

70 — **Julie Ruffel**
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Love Rosie, John and family

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weekenderweather

Friday 29th Apr	Saturday 30th Apr	Sunday 1st May	Monday 2nd May
Light Rain High 15° Low 8°	Rain High 17° Low 8°	Light Rain High 18° Low 8°	Mostly Sunny High 17° Low 6°
Tuesday 3rd May	**Wednesday 4th May**	**Thursday 5th May**	
Sunny High 15° Low 6°	Partly Cloudy High 16° Low 7°	Mostly Sunny High 16° Low 6°	

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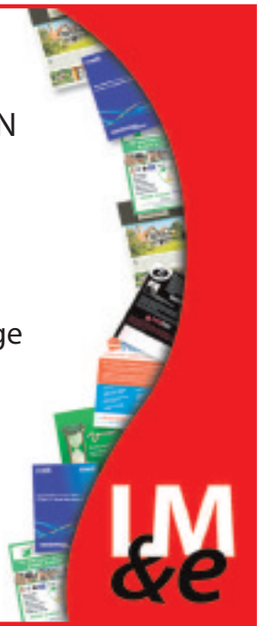

Website of the week

www.hintonfestival.info

Formed in 1999, the Hinton St George Festival Committee is composed of individuals with a strong connection to Hinton St George who are committed to bringing a wide variety of high quality, live music to the village and surroundings. They are fortunate to have use of the beautiful, historic St George's church with its superb acoustics for most concerts and a recently renovated Village Hall for less formal music.

The Festival Committee present many types of music; from Jazz to Classical, Contemporary to Traditional. Over the past decade, in addition to young musician evenings and our popular regulars the 'Sunset Stompers', we have been priviledged to host the following: 'Taunton Camerata', 'Teasing the Cat', Kathryn Stott, the 'New Scorpion Band', Sinead Pratschke & Brad Richter, Federico Mondelci, Julie Felix, the 'Phoenix Brass Band', 'Opus Anglicum', the 'Allegri String Quartet', 'Show of Hands', Bournemouth Sinfonietta Choir, Emma Kirkby & Anthony Rooley, Crispin Steele-Perkins & Leslie Pearson, the 'Huckleberries', Emma Johnson & the Endellion Quartet, the St. Petersberg Blagovest Ensemble, Thomas 'Spats' Langham & the 'Hot Combination', 'Live Wires', Wells Cathedral Choir.

Our aim is simple and straightforward. It is to bring a diversity of high quality live musical performances to the village and to provide encouragement and opportunity to young musicians from Hinton and the surrounding area.

Any profit made from the Festival is used to support the development of music among young people in the area.

Hinton St. George Festival

■ CAROLINE Woodhead

'Just do it', says marathon mum

AFTER months of gruelling training Crewkerne childminder and mother of two, Caroline Woodhead, achieved her aim to complete the London Marathon.

She managed the route in five hours 59 minutes and 45 seconds, and raised about £800 for Cots for Tots and SURE in memory of her friend Kelly Day-Elliott.

When asked if she would do it again Mrs Woodhead said: "On Sunday night I said no, but by the time I got to watch it on TV I wanted to go again, it was brilliant.

"I met some others within 30 seconds who were also first timers and very nervous and I met some of them again at the end. It took about 10-15 minutes to cross the start line and I was behind a rhinoceros! The kids loved it as well, I thought they might get bored standing on the side line all day but they were really good.

"I was running at about 1:50 for a half marathon but that all went out of the window, I just slowed down and enjoyed it. The atmosphere was brilliant, people put out hosepipes and sprayed us because it was so hot and kids came running up with pieces of orange and apple.

"I spoke to Jonanthan Pearce the BBC presenter, I had watched him last year struggling and he nearly made me cry, I told him not to give up and he was part of the reason I came."

When asked what advice she would give to anyone thinking of entering in the future, the marathon mum said: "Just do it, it's the most amazing thing ever."

For service to Crewkerne

■ IN RECOGNITION OF SERVICE: Helen Johnson was presented with Honorary Life Membership of Crewkerne Civic Society, having served on the committee for 12 years, ten years as secretary and two as acting chairman.

The presenters were, left, Simon Andrew (president) and Geoffrey Harfield (past chairman)

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Crewkernenews

Offices to dwellings

PLANNING permission has been given to Mrs Delia Barrett for the conversion of the commercial offices on North Street, Crewkerne, next to the Baptist Church, to form a two bedroom cottage and a one bedroom ground floor flat.

Although in commercial use as units since 2008, the property had been mainly empty for some time with the last tenant leaving last year. No external alterations are proposed and a parking/turning area and refuse storage will be provided to the rear of the property. A small area of gravelled access and shrubbery will provide some amenity space to serve each dwelling.

Yes, to houses

THE BURNT out shell of the Hardy House day centre at Chubbs Lawn, Middle Path, Crewkerne, owned by the Red Cross will be replaced by a pair of semi-detatched dwellings and associated parking after approval by South Somerset District Council.

A previous application for a five house terrace had been rejected as overdevelopment of the area which had been occupied by a Ministry of Works type classroom since 1953.

Red Cross week

DURING Red Cross week in Crewkerne, there will be lesson in basic first aid held at the charity shop in Falkland Square on Tuesday, May 3rd, from 10am until 12 noon for anyone interested.

Shop manager Jo Hampshire will be doing one of her legendary sponsored silences on May 6th from 10am-12.30pm and local author Malcolm Welshman will be raffling copies of his book 'Pets in a Pickle' which will be hot off the press.

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On the Easter egg trail

■ EASTER CHICK: Chloe Sochon from Chard

■ HOT ON THE TRAIL: Mia Davies from Merriott on the Ferne Easter egg trail

by Marion Draper

THEY came from far and wide on Easter Saturday for the annual Easter egg hunt and bonnet competition at Ferne Animal Sanctuary.

The eggs (golf balls) were gaurded by animals along the nature trail and around the yard. Different points were given for finding certain colours, attracting entries from toddlers to teenagers who were all enjoying an exceptionally sunny day. There were also stalls in the barn and refreshments at the café to enjoy as well as meeting some of the animals which live permanently at Ferne, before the bonnet parade at 4pm.

It was a tough moment for the judge, the children had all made such a wonderful array of hats and a winner was chosen from two different age groups, plus an overall winner. Easter egg prizes were given for the most points on the hunt in different age groups.

The Palmer family had a particularly good day when both boys won a soft toy on the tombola and Max found the golden egg. They came from Taunton for the day following family tradition mum Debbie's grandparents from Chard had always taken her to the sanctuary. She said she had seen Ferne grow and change over the years and wanted to keep up the tradition with her own children.

The staff and volunteers would like to thank everyone for their support in entering the competitions and they hope to see everyone back for their next dressing up event.

■ WHAT A LINE UP: A difficult choice for the judge of the bonnet contest

■ EGG HUNTERS: Devon Last from Crewkerne and Emma Scobell (below) visiting grandparents

■ UNDER FIVE BONNET WINNER: Ferne administrator Christine with Rees Loveridge from Chard

■ BABY TRAIL: Under five's winner of the egg hunt Ruby Price

■ FUN FOR ALL: Teen winner Naomi Beller from Chard (second from left) and her friends

Chard Town Council Elections: Thursday May 5th Vote Independent!

Avishayes Ward: Graham Forsyth

Combe Ward: No elections

Crimchard Ward: Carl Anderson, Tony Prior

Holyrood Ward: No independent candidates

Jocelyn Ward: Dave Bulmer, Martin Dowell, Sandra Pittwood

Independent councillors: Independent of political parties, independent of one another

Published by Tony Prior to promote candidates Carl Anderson (15 John Gunn Close), Dave Bulmer (2 Silver Street), Martin Dowell (Grove House, The Drift, Crewkerne Road), Graham Forsyth (9 Fairway Rise), Sandra Pittwood (50 Halcombe) and Tony Prior (164 Druids Walk) - all of Chard.

Diamond year for hospital friends

■ CELEBRATING A GREAT YEAR: The committee of South Petherton Hospital League of Friends

SOUTH Petherton Hospital League of Friends could not have wanted a better year for their diamond celebration, with the recent completion of the new community hospital and the first patients due to use it any day now.

They had an excellent annual general meeting earlier this month with a record number of members in attendance at 58, plus a further two who joined on the day. The guest speaker was project manager Wendy Grey, who spoke about volunteering.

Wendy Marshfield, the project director for the new community hospital also attended as a guest and at the end of the meeting informed the members that she had been in London the previous day where South Petherton and Minehead Hospitals each received a Gold Award for Construction Excellence, only 25 gold awards were given out of 8,500 submissions.

Chairman Mary Robertson then presented her with an engraved paper knife on behalf of the members with thanks for keeping them so well informed throughout the construction of the hospital.

The meeting closed with tea and a slice of a celebration cake which Wendy helped to cut. The League of Friends summer fete will be on Saturday, June 25th, starting at 2pm in the grounds of the new hospital.

■ DIAMOND YEAR: Chairman Mary Roberston and South Petherton Community Hospital project director Wendy Marshfield

■ LOCAL SPONSORSHIP: Tom Siebert (GM Ariel), Tom Biggs new captain NPCC 1st XI, Simon Saunders MD Ariel, Nick Carruthers chairman of NPCC cricket, John Hammond chairman of NPCC

Sports car sponsors for local cricket

NORTH Perrott Cricket Club has been given a four year sponsorship deal by the Ariel Motor Company, makers of the Ariel Atom.

The new sponsorship coincided with the introduction of Tom Briggs their new captain of the NPCC 1st XI and new player coach Greg Kennis, ex Surrey and Somerset player.

Managing director of the Ariel Motor Company, Simon Saunders and general manager Tom Seibert took a couple of their high performance vehicles along to the cricket ground for the signing of the deal.

Mr Saunders' home backs on to the field and he said: "I sometimes sit on my tractor and watch the play. It is such a nice cricket ground, I bump into people all over the country with my work and when I say I come from a small village in Somerset called North Perrott, expecting them not to have heard of it and they often have, because of the top class cricket played here."

Former player Mr Seibert said: "When Nick approached us we were happy to come on board, the last couple of years we have made it a part of our programme to be involved with the community. We offer rides in the car and tours of the factory for auctions of promises and suchlike."

Chairman of cricket, Nick Carruthers said they were delighted with the four year sponsorship.

"It's great to have a close association with an international company. We are lucky to have such a great area here, it was originally created by the American troops during the war, they wanted a baseball pitch and levelled the ground. We have done a lot of work upgrading the pavilion and everything is looking great for the season."

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LOCAL ELECTIONS - Make your vote count on May 5th

FOLLOWING the publication last week of the names and election addresses of the candidates for Crewkerne Town Council and the Avishayes Ward of Chard Town Council, we now present the candidates for Chard's Crimchard, Holyrood and Jocelyn Wards.

As mentioned last week there is no contest for the Chard Combe Ward and no contest for Ilminster Town Council.

CRIMCHARD WARD has five candidates for the three seats:

Carl Anderson - Independent

I served 12 years in the armed forces and achieved the rank of Sergeant. In 1974 I set up a construction company, Anderson Building Construction, until 1985 when I met Lynda who later became my wife.

I attended Yeovil College and re-trained as a plumbing and heating engineer, and worked for H E J O'Brian in Bridport.

In 1989 I started teaching part time at Yeovil College and set up Anderson Plumbing Services.

In 2003 I was requested to go full time at Yeovil College, which I did, and October I took over as head of the plumbing department.

Lynda and I had always been fond of Chard and in May 2006 we moved to where we are today, a perfect situation.

In 2007 I retired but after only two weeks I needed something to fill my needs so went back to work which I continue to do and enjoy to this day.

Lib Dem and Conservative Councillors will meet before a regular council meeting and agree their party policies on the agenda. I will be independent and fight for what is needed and requested from our community.

I was outraged to learn that our town clerk was costing council tax payers in Chard £50,000 plus National Insurance plus pension contributions. If elected I will oppose such payments to the new clerk.

Last year, as I understand, £120,000 was spent on the upkeep of our roads and byways, from November last I have seen one roadsweeper on only one day.

When I came to Chard it was clean and welcoming, now all you see is filthy streets..

You can walk by the Guildhall any day of the week, and apart from the TIC it looks empty, yet, there are trade stalls out in the back trying to make a living.

Derek Bassett - Conservative

Derek was born and educated in West Sussex and at school developed a life-long love of sport; favourites being football, cricket and cross-country. After school he trained as a carpenter and joiner and after a few years set up on his own. He also has experience in a variety of other roles including working as a courier. He married his wife Veronica (Ronnie) nearly 30 years ago and together they moved to Chard several years ago.

"We now live on Crimchard Ward, in Kinforde with our two locally adopted cats. I am currently employed in a local warehouse selling plastic building materials.

"I continued to play football, golf and bowls for many years but it is mainly the more gentle bowls and skittles for me these days! At one time I was secretary of my local football club, which kept me busy during the football season. I now bowl at Donyatt both indoors and outdoors and skittle in the Conservative Club league.

"I have served on the management committee of the Conservative Club in Chard for the last four years and am now also a member of the bar and finance committee. I enjoy helping with the running of the club and meeting lots of the members. Ronnie and I are also great theatregoers and love to get over to the Octagon in Yeovil as often as we can.

"Having lived in the community for some time, I now feel the time is right for me to offer my services locally as a town and district councillor. If elected I will try to represent the people of Crimchard Ward to the best of my abilities."

Julian Dorse - LibDem

I am 53 and was born and bred in Chard. I ran a successful butchery business in the town for 27 years and helped to bring up six children at the same time. My passion at the moment is helping the homeless and mentoring young people of Chard who are off the rails so they get back on track.

Reasons for being a councillor? Being a local person it is good to be in a position to deal with local issues even though the meetings involved can be tedious boring and long winded. The democratic process is a lot slower than I thought but I am very happy to help deal with these issues rather than someone not from Chard who does not necessarily know how "Chard works".

Living as I do in the centre of the town I am more than aware of the problems of the late night economy that does not just affect the town centre but also local parks. I work very closely with the police and support the new initiative of street pastors which will come to our town in March.

If you feel I am still the man for the job please vote for me on May 5th Thank you

Jenny Kenton - LibDem

I am 49, born in Chard and I have been the district councillor for Crimchard ward for the past three years since the untimely death of Jean Smith. I have also been a town councillor for Jocelyn ward; I would like to represent Crimchard on both councils for this election. I have been instrumental in many of the changes that have taken place recently within the council such as the move of the offices from the Lace mill to the Guildhall, the reduction in Guildhall charges, the Guildhall open days and the introduction of the new newsletter which has been delivered to every door.

My husband and I sold our business two years ago and I am now only concentrating on being a councillor and spending time with my family. I was born in Chard and have worked here since leaving Holyrood School. I successfully managed a local pub business with my husband Andy and have no plans to go back into the work place in any other role than that of a councillor.

Making Chard Town Council user friendly is a passion of mine and if elected I will work with other councillors and the staff to achieve this.

Tony Prior - Independent

Tony Prior came to Chard in 1975 to work as a social worker for Somerset County Council. In 1977 he decided to make Chard his home and moved into the Crimchard ward. He married Margaret in 1981.

In 1979 he was elected to both Chard Town Council and Yeovil District Council (now South Somerset District Council) for the Holyrood ward. In 1983 he led a team of 13 Liberals to victory on the Town council and was elected Mayor, a position he held for two years. He had the privilege of opening the Chard 750 celebrations in 1985.

Also in May 1983 he was elected leader of Yeovil District Council/South Somerset District Council and remained leader for seven years.

Tony did not confine himself to his council work and served on the committee of South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau for 20 years, nine of them as chairman. Crowshute House, the home of Chard Amateur Theatre Society, Chard Light Operatic Society, Chard Concert Brass and older persons lunches, was his idea. The money came from the sale of land at Mitchell Gardens which he made sure did not go to Yeovil.

Another initiative was the Chard Christmas Fayre which he organised for 25 years, minus the four years the Guildhall was closed, helping dozens of charities and clubs raise funds for their work.

Following his retirement from social work in 1999 he didn't sit down. He works part-time as the clerk to the local alms houses, is the treasurer of both Chard Museum and the League of Friends of Chard Hospital. He likes gardening and keeps fit exercising, walking and cycling. He tries to go on a walking holiday every year.

Tony was re-elected to Chard Town Council last year and is now seeking election to the Town and district councils.

LOCAL ELECTIONS - Make your vote count on May 5th

There are four prospective councillors standing for the three HOLYROOD WARD seats

Brennie Halse - Conservative

Brennie has been closely connected with the town of Chard since 1975 through her husband's family who have had their roots in the town since the 19th century. Halse and Sons the ironmongers were in Fore Street (Blockbusters are currently there) and the Halse brothers Ernest, Cuthbert and Sydney marched from Chard in 1914 to fight in the First World War.

"Since 1996 we have lived in Chard in the Holyrood Ward just off the High street. I was a founding member of Chard Conservative Association in 2007 and currently hold the position of Hon Secretary. I regularly deliver leaflets and newspapers throughout the ward and would be thrilled to represent the area both at town and district level. I have been a schoolteacher for many years and now tutor children (mainly from Holyrood School) in English and maths.

I believe that Chard is a great town but it desperately needs up-to-date sports and leisure facilities, reasonable rates for town centre parking , maybe the first hour free and a fairer share of Somerset County Council funds and services."

Dave Orchard - LibDem

I am 55 and have lived in Chard all my life, currently living in Halcombe with my wife and daughter. I have been in the electrical distribution industry for 39 years and deal with cable and street lighting faults in Chard and Crewkerne.

This job means I often have to work evenings and long hours but I still have time to chair the planning meetings at Chard Town Council. My hobbies include amateur dramatics and carnivals and my family and I are heavily involved with both. I am currently working with other Liberal Democrat Councillors regarding parking issues around our schools and in the main streets.

I would like to set up a good neighbour system with local voluntary groups to help vulnerable people in the bad weather and install more grit bins to keep vehicles moving. I am particularly worried about the current state of our roads especially for cyclists and I will be reporting every pothole I see to the county council.

Garry Shortland -LibDem

I am 52 and married with two sons, I have been working behind the scenes for the Lib Dems for the last 20 years, I am a town councillor, Mayor's consort and chairman of the Amenities Committee at present. I have been a volunteer at the youth centre for several years and was chairman of the Glynswood community association when we lived in that area.

We have many new houses in this ward and need to have the right facilities for all the residents, I want the residents to have a say in those facilities. It is important that Holyrood thrives in the future and I will work hard with David Laws and the other Liberal Democrat Councillors to achieve that.

The Liberal Democrat team of councillors have worked hard to make sure that the town precept has been frozen or reduced slightly over the last two years while keeping services at an improved level. It has taken a long time to achieve this and I want to be there to continue this for the people of Chard.

Sue Wyatt - LibDem

I have lived in Holyrood ward for 59 years and during my time as a Lib Dem councillor I have been involved with many elections, both local and national, my first experience was helping to get Paddy elected many years ago. I enjoy helping people and feel strongly about the town I live in.

I am a founder member of the recently closed Chard disability action group who have raised funds over the years to provide play equipment for local parks, Ashcroft being one, as well as helping older people with disabilities. I have also been very active in helping the Mayor Jill Shortland to raise money for her cancer charities, something very dear to my heart, for the past two years.

I have worked closely with both the PCSO Gareth and Yarlington homes to try to solve some of the issues in Holyrood ward. This involves meeting tenants at street surgeries with Yarlington and walking the beat with Gareth.

I am currently heavily involved with Chard Town Council in the refurbishment of Ashcroft play area and am campaigning to get the promised play area for Alun Reece way as well as a grit bin for Halcombe.

JOCELYN WARD has five contenders for three seats.

Abdul Bostan - LibDem

Abdul, aged 49, was born in Uganda and moved to England with his family as a child. They were first housed in Houndstone camp in Yeovil before moving to Liverpool where he grew up.

He moved back to the Somerset area nine years ago and has worked for local company ACI for this time moving to Chard 2 ½ years ago, now living in Beckington Crescent with his son. He is passionate about young people and over the last 12 years he and his family have made many visits back to Uganda and Tanzania to help underprivileged children there with funds raised in the UK. Abdul who is a father of six has also raised money for the lifeboat in West Bay for the last four years by taking part in the raft race organised by the RNLI.

Abdul says: "Because I live in Jocelyn Park I am aware of the problems faced by the people that live there. We have many new houses in the area and need to have the right facilities for all the residents both young and old. If elected I will be working with our MP David Laws, the County Councillor Jill Shortland and the other Liberal Democrat councillors. I want to see Jocelyn ward thrive, I have great enthusiasm and will be a voice for the people of Jocelyn."

Dave Bulmer - Independent

First and foremost I sincerely believe that as a councillor for Jocelyn Ward I will not only address the views and concerns of people within the ward, but also for the town as a whole. Only independent councillors can do that in a constructive and balanced way.

Since I have been a councillor I have worked tirelessly on the issues that matter to people of our town; if re-elected as a town and district councillor representing Jocelyn Ward I will continue to do so using my years of experience and knowledge, this can be vital for the future of our town. I say this because Chard is at a crucial point in its programme for regeneration and development. Development must also include infrastructure such as play and leisure facilities that will enhance the quality of life for our communities.

I am passionate about delivering the very core services that council's undertake, services that must be delivered with greatly reduced budgets. This is mainly because central Government has hit council's hard with severe cutbacks in funding. Therefore we need to consider the current structure and find better ways to utilise resources. A good example of this use of resources is street cleaning as it has become apparent in recent months that this service has had a drop in standards. This has concerned me a great deal, which is a matter we must address urgently, without looking for excuses which party political groups seem to make.

I will continue to be positive and constructive and have a good attendance at council meetings, this is the only way that councillors can contribute and be that vital link between the people and council officers.

Martin Dowell - Independent

As I live in the Chard area I have a great deal of knowledge of what the people want for our town. I am keen to improve the living environment for the residents of Chard. Being a local businessman I already make a valued contribution to the local economy. I sincerely believe there should be no politics in Chard Town Council, and would like to see all councillors work together for the benefit of the whole community. I am confident of adding a strong Independent voice in debating council business, and will always have the best interest in the wellbeing of Chard residents.

Turn to page 8

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Chard Town Council
Jocelyn Ward candidates continued

Dave O'Brien - LibDem

Dave 55 is a Design Engineer who has lived and worked locally for the last 13 years, he was a member of the Rotary and Round Table branches when he lived in North Devon. During this time he helped to raise over £100,000 by organising events such as fun runs and a raft race.

His experience will help to bring business and organisational skills to the council and he would like to encourage more regeneration into the town centre where he lives. He feels it is important that Chard Town Council improves their public image in the town, working on the foundation that has been started over the last few years by the current Liberal Democrats on Chard Town Council.

Dave would like to see more community events in Chard and would work with local organisations and the general public to achieve this. Events that could be provided include: fetes, Easter egg hunts and a street party next year for the Queen's diamond jubilee. This could particularly be achieved by utilising Jocelyn Park for events.

Sandra Pitwood-Independent

Sandra has lived in Chard for most of her life. She worked in the administration department of the Town Council for 15 years until she retired last year, where she took minutes at meetings giving her a good working knowledge of the council.

Recently she was involved with the installation of the multi- use games areas and play equipment at Bampton Avenue, Henson Park, Jocelyn Park and Ashcroft.

She is standing as an independent because she does not believe politics should enter the local level of government but should be about a group of people working together for the benefit of the local community. She wants to see a return of a more open and democratic council with less restriction and more debate.

During her time with the council, Sandra took an active part in Chard in Bloom and efforts to enhance the town during the summer months, which she continues to do as a volunteer.

Like many in the town she has been concerned with the level of the salary for the previous town clerk and would oppose another salary of £50,000 she also thinks there is no need for a deputy clerk.

Sandra is also concerned the Guildhall is under used with bookings having fallen over the last few years and many organisations being driven away by the high cost. She wants to see it more actively promoted and users to be able to access the kitchen as they did in the past and wants to remove the reception desk in the foyer to allow stalls to use the space during fairs.

Scent of summer at St Michael's

by Marion Draper

THE CHURCH of St Michael at Seavington was filled with perfume from a two day festival of flowers to celebrate Easter on the Sunday and Monday.

The Reverend David Jasper had suggested a topic to speak of the impact of Jesus' encounter with his disciples after the resurrection. The floral arrangers made 12 statements, filling the windowsills, altar and pulpit of the small church with a variety of style and colour.

Visitors were delighted and impressed. Mrs Patricia Hunt, (pictured on the front page), who recently stood down as the High Sheriff of Somerset made a special journey on Monday after a busy morning in court to see the display. She is a regular decorator of the altar in her own village, and was particularly taken with the more summery arrangements, preferring chrysanthemums at Christmas time.

Some of the displays were punctuated with other items, such as doves, sheep and even a handmade fishing net.

Donations were taken for the church trust and there were refreshments served in the church yard which were very welcome in the beautiful weather.

The organisers would like to thank everyone who visited the festival.

■ CHRIST IS RISEN: Trish Harper from South Petherton and friend Kath Ranier from Sherborne admire the resurrection on the altar window created by Joy Madge

Advertiser's Announcement

SKILLBUILD COMPETITION 2011 – Apprentices compete to retain their titles!

LEARNERS fromTrain4All will be competing against some of the South West' best construction apprentices at this year's SkillBuild competition which will be held in Taunton on Thursday 12th May.

In a bid to retain their titles, Tom 'the tiler' Keal and Ben Knutt will be giving 110% to ensure that they remain as Tiling regional winners following their first and second places in the 2010 competition.

Our bricklayers will also be demonstrating their great skill in a bid to win. Last year they were competing against senior apprentices and really held their own, this year they want to be placed.

Jon Allen, Director of Training said: "Our apprentices receive first class training at Train4All and they demonstrated that to the region last year, this year the apprentices want to show how much progression has been made in their ability."

If you would like to be competing in the 2012 Skill Build competition and would like to become an apprentice, come along to our **Open Evening on Wednesday 4th May at our Chard centre**.

We also have full time pre-apprenticeship programmes to suit those who are not looking to embark on a full apprenticeship until they have some skills under their belt. If you would like more information or would like to arrange an immediate interview, please contact us on 01460 261179 or via our website: www.train4all.co.uk.

We will also be holding an OPEN DAY on Saturday 2nd July from 10.00am – 2.00pm.

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The draw will be held on the 2nd Anniversary at FT 6th September 2011

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weekenderpeople

■ YOUNG people enjoy the bowling with George Fox (YHG) and Ben Hardwill

It's all about U

YOUNG people from Chard, Crewkerne and Ilminster areas were among those taking part in a new initiative to engage with young people.

"It's all about U" was launched at Yeovil Bowlplex with over 40 11-17 -year-olds from across the Yarlington Housing Group area enjoying two free games of bowling.

Yarlington Housing Group came up with the brand to identify needs and ideas for improving local areas for young people. "It's all about U" has also created a Facebook page "U have a voice" and a Twitter account @wewannahear for this age group to talk to the housing organisation and share ideas of how to improve their environment.

A great time was had by everyone and "It's all about U" has received some fantastic comments on its Facebook wall already including "had a great time". There were also some great suggestions and feedback on how Yarlington Housing Group can improve local areas that the company has taken on board and will investigate further.

■ FAMILY CELEBRATION: Cousins Gordon Morris and Barbara Brown with birthday girl Ena Wyatt and her son Tom

Ena still dancing at 90

TEA dancing enthusiast Ena Wyatt, of Ilminster, celebrated her 90th birthday with a party at the bowling club.

As a founder member of the Ilminster Tuesday tea dance club, she couldn't think of any better way to celebrate with her many friends from the town, many of whom she had met through the group.

Mrs Wyatt said the dancing kept her feeling young and mobile and she still walks into town on a regular basis and lives in a second floor flat.

A birthday cake was made by Jean Hawkins and donations were made to the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance instead of gifts.

The party was organised by Ena's son Tony, who said their sitting room was like a florist's shop.

There were about 75 guests at the tea dance party and he would like to thank everyone who came along to make his mother's special day even better.

If you have a story for the Weekender please call Marion Draper on 07771 641506 or email marionsview@aol.com

60 seconds

PEACE loving Annabella Van Clute has now lived in Crewkerne for 30 years and considers it her base.

Brought up by an academic father of Dutch American origin who had met Kodak, Harry Houdini and seen the Hindenburg and a mother from Hampshire, Annabella was given a wide view of the world from an early age.

She spent many years as a child in Seville while her father taught there, but their family home had been in Norton Sub Hamdon.

Annabella was born a boy and named Adrian. Although unhappy with her gender from the age of 12 and despite liberal parents she told no one until a few years ago when she became deeply depressed after the death of her father.

Now, thanks to understanding friends and hormone therapy from her doctor, Annabella has begun a new life as a DJ on Crewkerne's online radio station United FM and is taking a teacher training courses at Yeovil College whilst volunteering at Somerset Mind.

● **WHAT do you like about Crewkerne?**

I like the friendliness of it. Despite my gender difficulties most people have been very understanding. There have only been one or two who have given me a hard time and the police have been very supportive and I have a panic button just in case. Crewkerne is a very special place with a lot of history like the Saxon Mint and the sails for the Victory and I like being close to the sea. My spiritual home is Lyme Regis where I went to boarding school and my family's ashes are scattered.

● **WHAT have you been involved in, in the town?**

My first job was in the glove factory but I worked in Yeovil museum in the late 80s and helped with the setting up of Crewkerne's museum. I was also involved in West One youth club when I first moved to the town, we used to take kids ice skating in Bristol back then.

I helped at Rhydderch House and we used to go to Clapton village hall. I love nature, that's why I joined the campaign to save the oak tree when the council wanted to cut it down. There is a lot of wildlife here and I am getting a book together on the walks around Crewkerne with all the trees marked. I also have a WWII project and I'm trying to find out more about the pillbox at Wadham School.

● **IS THERE something you think Crewkerne needs?**

Yes we really need an arts centre and music venue and a place for the youngsters, like a café. The old surgery in Abbey Street or part of the Bonsoir building would be great for that but it's all about money isn't it.

● **WHAT kind of music do you like?**

I was brought up on classical and apart from folk and jazz, I really like the psychedelic music that came out of San Francisco in the 60s, like Crosby Stills Nash and Young and the Eagles. Ralph McTell is a personal friend of mine and I love to go to the Sidmouth Folk Festival.

● **WHEN is your radio show?**

I am on United FM from 4-7pm on Mondays and 3.30-7pm on Saturdays when I link in with California. I have a good extensive music book so I like to give a bit of history with the music and play tributes if someone dies. I like to promote new bands too like Bill Stewart, a marvellous blues guitarist from the north that I am trying to get down here to the Orange Box. In Crewkerne we have a music night in Oscar's Wine Bar on Sunday nights, I play CDs from 6-7.30pm then we open it up to anyone to play.

● **DO you play any instruments yourself?**

I play blues guitar and blues harp. I'm trying to learn the penny whistle and mandolin.

● **HOW did you become involved in astronomy?**

Through liking the night sky and my father was in to physics and science fiction. When I heard they were setting up an astronomy group in Crewkerne I jumped at the chance to be involved. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at the church hall from 7.30pm. We saw the space station go over at the last meeting.

● **WHAT is the best thing you have seen so far?**

I have seen Jupiter with the naked eye and the craters of the moon, the rings of Saturn and the sun through a special telescope.

● **WHAT else are you involved in?**

I am a member of Amnesty International and would like to get a local group going again. I am keen on preserving the environment and wildlife, my lifelong dream is to swim with dolphins.

I was sent out of Hinkley Point at gunpoint in 1968 for protesting against it with Friends of the Earth. I'm also involved in an esoteric library in Glastonbury and have learned storytelling from my good friend Adrian Beckingham.

● **IF you could meet anyone, past or present who would you choose?**

I would like to have met Ghandi and Martin Luther King and I would like to meet Barack Obama. He has made some mistakes with his presidency but on the whole he is a peaceful person it seems, I have read his book. I would also like to meet the feminist writers, Kate Millet and Germaine Greer and the Dalai Lama.

● **DO you have any unfulfilled ambitions?**

Seeing Katmandu, Nepal and Tibet and going up the Amazon. I'd like to go to the Galapagos Islands too.

Ultimately I would love to be living and working in San Francisco, I'm talking to someone now about doing a documentary about the 60s scene survivors there.

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■ SIXTIES NOSTALGIA: Hannah Obern, Grace and Darren Chown and Jensen Anstey

by Marion Draper

CLASSICS at the Mill, a new car show and family day was organised by members of Somerset Classic Minis to raise money for the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA) . The show was held at Haselbury Mill and the charity was chosen in memory of Ruth Osborne from Crewkerne who died of the disease almost a year ago, aged only 51.

Her husband Steve, a local firefighter, was there with his colleagues and the fire engine while members of his extended family were armed with collecting buckets and running stalls in the Tithe Barn.

Classic car owners paid £4 to exhibit which included a half price cream tea, and the public were asked to make a donation to the charity with the total so far at around £950. There were a large number of cars lined up in the grounds of the Mill in various styles including three mini clubs -the Somerset Classic Minis, Jurassic Coast Mini Club and East Devon Mini Club. There was a bouncy castle for the children and craft stalls and a raffle.

Among the exhibitors was Darren Chown from Crewkerne with a 1964 Volkswagon caravanette which he got four years ago and stripped back to bare metal.

Derek Athey from Dunkeswell exhibited his pride and joy, a 1965 Sunbeam Rapier which he bought from its original owner in 1996, he said it was in wonderful condition and all he had to do was some paintwork and regular maintenance. He was impressed with the organisation of the show which he thought was very good for a first one.

Organiser Yvonne Best was extremely pleased with the turn out on the day and would like to thank the car owners and the public for supporting the event. She said they were particularly grateful to the Ariel Atom motor company who had been asked to send a car for exhibit but had also given a ride in the car and a tour of the factory as a prize to be raffled.

■ IN MEMORY: Family members collecting for MNDA in memory of Ruth Osbourne

■ MATCH FUNDING: Eric Osborne exhibits his own classic car and other models for donations

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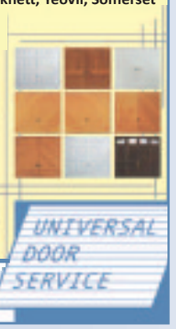

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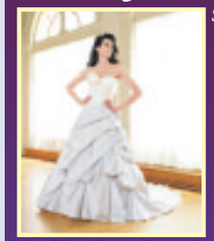

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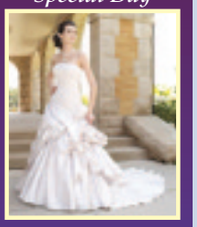

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Weekender Gardens and Exteriors

A new life in Ilminster for newly weds

Newly Weds Lee and Isabel Kerley are busy moving into their East Street fixer-upper in Ilminster, having left behind their jobs and flat in Winchester to make a fresh start as self- employed people under the banner of Ilminster Garden Services.

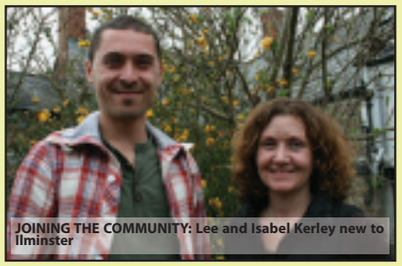
They chose Ilminster because they loved the area, Isabel has family in North Curry and they said they wanted to be somewhere friendly, with real community spirit.

The couple are both experienced horticulturalists who worked together at the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, where they met. They looked after 30 acres of everything from ponds to woodland, peat bogs to Japanese gardens but now want to specialise in eco consultancy, helping people make their gardens more wildlife friendly by using less chemicals utilising companion planting to control pests.

The couple are very keen on being active members of the community and are already talking about a gardening club and trying to involve the youth club. Lee plays cricket and they are both beekeepers, although they may be looking for an alternative venue if their neighbours are not comfortable with the idea of bees next door.

They are delighted with their listed terraced cottage and have already unearthed and original path in the back garden. It was laid mainly to gravel but they said it is full of bindweed and ground elder .Lee said it was a common mistake people made, thinking gravel will be low maintenance when in fact such weeds find it easier to spread through with little resistance in the loose stones.

Isabel said she was keen to have an allotment as they did before but appreciated there was already a waiting list. They were both very interested to hear about the Eames Woodland project and the Ilminster Flower Show and said they would love to be involved.



JOINING THE COMMUNITY: Lee and Isabel Kerley new to Ilminster

Sustainable and ecologically friendly products

Mike and Jackie have been working with willow in their home county of Somerset for many years. Six years ago they started their own business making and selling willow baskets, hurdles and other rustic items to the public.

Their love the outdoor life, and visit many of the craft fairs around the country, where they demonstrate the skills which they use on a daily basis. They are both passionate about the countryside they live and work in and are active in promoting the use of sustainable and ecologically friendly products and methods of working.

They are thrilled that a once dying art is being helped to stay alive via the interest expressed locally and on the internet. Their product range has expanded within the last year and now includes garden basket ware in the form of a selection of trugs made from sustainably harvested willow. Great British Baskets are based near the Somerset Levels, which are a large area of wetland running between the Quantock and Mendip hills. Willow has been harvested and grown here for thousands of years.

Other products include picnic baskets, laundry baskets, log baskets, fishing baskets, homeware, and kitchenware.

Visit their website today for more information at www.greatbritishbaskets.co.uk.

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Garden Design - Garden Consultancy
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Lee: 07793 381913
Isabel: 07810 897019

44 East Street, Ilminster
www.ilminstergardenservices.co.uk

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weekender life

arts & entertainment

Traditional meal at Henhayes Community Centre

THE Henhayes Community Centre hosted a pre-Royal Wedding lunch for the Tuesday Welcome Group and members of the Centre on Tuesday 26th. It was a 'slap-up meal' in the old tradition, sirloin of beef, roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding with all the trimmings, followed by home-made apple pie with clotted cream, all rounded off with coffee and mint chocolates. What more could you ask for? Well Penny thought of a complaint "why can't we have another one next week?" We think she should put that question to the cook! If you would like to come along on a Tuesday, you may find it difficult to get out of the house, or you are lonely and don't meet many people, you would be most welcome. Transport can be arranged locally, just call 01460 74340.

Going Out Gigs

Jez Lowe and the Bad Pennies return to The David Hall

FOR almost 20 years, Jez Lowe and The Bad Pennies have been playing their songs and music of Northern England around the folk festivals, clubs and concert stages of the world, and on Saturday, May 7th they return to The David Hall in South Petherton.

"Acoustic simplicity coupled with electric vitality" was how they were described in their early days and, now with half a dozen albums to their credit, along with solo albums by Jez and other members of the group, their following has continued to increase.

Strong vocals backed by outstanding instrumental back-up on guitar, cittern, fiddle, fretless bass, keyboards and Northumbrian Pipes, have made them one of Britain's top attractions on the Folk/Acoustic/Celtic circuit.

Petherton Arts Trust's Pete Wheeler says: *"This will be Jez and the band's second appearance at the Hall. Without doubt, he's not only one of the country's very best songwriters but also a fantastic performer – and one of the most popular artists on the circuit. To have Jez with us performing solo would be great enough but, having the Bad Pennies as well means that we are in for a double treat!"*

The show starts at 8pm. Tickets, costing £15 (full) and £14 (concessions) can be booked and paid for via the website www.thedavidhall.org.uk They can also be purchased at N & D News, St James Street, South Petherton and reserved by calling 01460 240 340 or by e-mailing boxoffice@thedavidhall.org.uk

Jez Lowe and the Bad Pennies

Avalonian Free State Choir return to Martock

THE 36-strong Avalonian Free State Choir from Glastonbury return to Martock for a concert at the Church on Thursday, may 19th at 7.30pm.

Their programme includes traditional and medieval English gospels, folksongs and madrigals, and tunes from Bulgaria, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Poland, Russia and South America.

Their performance at Martock Church last year produced numerous standing ovations.

Tickets cost £6 on the door, or £5 in advance.

Going Out Gigs

WORLD CLASS GUITARIST MORGAN SZYMANKSI TO PLAY IN HINTON

THE Hinton St. George Festival Committee is pleased to announce that the renowned guitarist, Morgan Szymanski, will be giving a recital in St. George's Church in the village at 7.30 pm on Saturday, May 14th. Morgan has performed most of the great guitar concertos with many of the world's leading orchestras. His recital in Hinton will comprise a mix of classical Spanish and more contemporary music for the guitar.

Born in Mexico City in 1979, Morgan Szymanski studied at the Royal College of Music and Conservatorium van Amsterdam, graduating in 2004 with first class honours. He was the first guitarist to be awarded the Phoebe Benham Junior Fellowship at the Royal College of Music, where he completed his Masters with distinction. A top prize-winner at international competitions, Morgan won first prize at the 2002 National Guitar Competition in Mexico, first prize at the Kulkulcan Competition in Mexico and second prize at both the Zwolle Competition in Holland and the Paracho Competition in Mexico. Abroad, performances as a soloist and with orchestras have taken him to Holland, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, Mexico and the USA. Morgan has played at the Wigmore Hall on several occasions, and given recitals at Bridgewater Hall, and International Festivals in Bristol, Bath, the Lake District, Cheltenham, Newbury, Chelsea, Salisbury, Lichfield, Buxton, Warwick and Ripon.. Further afield Morgan has appeared at the Milan Guitar Festival and in Lisbon, Guatemala and Mexico. As a concerto soloist he has performed Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London. In 2005 Morgan's first CD was released with classic Latin American music alongside works especially written for him. Morgan's wealth of repertoire ranges from classical, Spanish and Latin American music to the twenty-first century.

Tickets are priced at £12 and £9 (limited view) and are on sale in advance through the Box Office on 07500 532 543, by e-mail at hintonfestival@hotmail.co.uk or by post to Hinton Festival, c/o The Personal Service Stores, High St, Hinton St. George TA17 8SE. Further information about the concert can be obtained from the website www.hintonfestival.info.

Going Out Gigs

Russell Kane brings stand up show to the Brewhouse

DON'T miss this opportunity to see ***Russell Kane***, 2010's winner of the Edinburgh Comedy Award and co-host of ITV2's 'I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here NOW!' at Taunton's Brewhouse Theatre on Wednesday, May 4th at 8pm.

His show Smokescreens & Castles explores self, family, and the consequences of his Dad buying his own council house. Sociological silliness and high energy contortions guaranteed.

Tickets for the show cost £14 (£12 for concessions). To book call the box office on 01823 283244 as spaces are limited.

Food

email: rgcoles@me.com

with Richard Coles

THE humble potato. Ubiquitous, yet undervalued. Cheap, yet nutritious. Low fat, yet satisfyingly filling. And so while I appreciate pasta and rice, and all the other flavours and textures that they encourage onto the dinner plate, I must admit that the 'spud' is certainly wins the accolade of my favourite 'carb'.

For those weekender readers who live or travel through rural spots, you will have noticed the 25kg bags for sale on the side of the road beside local farms. On more than one occasion I've helped an older person get one into the back of their Honda Jazz, for that is certainly a considerable weight. In fact, a family member once - way over ten years ago - spent a back breaking summer lumping these bags around for a few quid, and they still moan about the effort involved today.

On average, 25kg from your local farmer will cost you £6 this year. Just stop and do the maths on that a moment - six quid! Next time you're in Tesco, go and see how much they charge you for just 1kg and marvel at the value. It's fantastic, and yet more evidence of the money there is to be saved (yes, saved!) by buying seasonal produce direct from your farm and cutting out the middleman.

But as well as making massive savings by buying this most versatile of roots from the side of the road, why not consider growing some. Imagine the outside of your property - you don't need rolling fields behind your house. In fact, if you've got enough room to keep one large plant pot then you've got enough room to grow a good crop of potatoes.

What you might consider investing in is potato bags. As usual, the best place to buy these are on eBay, and in their most common iteration they are made of a a tough polyester (similar to the sheets your dad used to use to put in the boot of the Mark 2 Escort before taking garden waste to the tip), and are cylindrical. Towards the bottom (and this is the clever bit) they have a pocket you can open so that you can harvest your new spuds without disturbing the plant.

Interested? Well, here's what to do. Get your bags ordered and then nip down to your garden centre to buy some seed potatoes. Don't just pick up the first bag you see, because there are different types (broadly speaking early, main crop and late) - as well as different varieties suitable for different things. Grab some that are good for the time you want to plant and what you finally want to do with them. Once home, let them chit. In a nut shell, turn them out onto a tray and leave in a well lit place for about a week. The seeds will begin to sprout, and this means they are ready.

Now you can plant. Put about 20cm of compost in your bag, and then put in about half a dozen seed spuds and cover. As you keep them well watered, the top of the plant will start to grow. As they do, keep adding more and more soil over the weeks of growth until you eventually reach the top. At this stage you might be able to put your hand in at the bottom and steel a few new offerings. Finally, when the plant on top withers down you can harvest the larger spuds.

Easy, fresh and fun. So this year, don't buy your spuds at the supermarket. Get some from the side of the road and grow some of your own. Make your own connection between plant and plate.

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weekenderlife DIARY DATES

SUNDAY MAY 1ST

CREWKERNE: Garden Open at Wayford Manor from 2-5pm. Admission £4, children free. Dogs allowed, plants for sale.

CHARD: Beatrix Potter Woodland Trail at Cotley House from 2pm - 5pm. Woodland Trail, Face Painting, Story Telling Session with professional story teller, tea with Peter Rabbit. In aid of Children's Hospice South West.

DINNINGTON: Dinnington Bluebell Walk. From 2.30pm, starting at St Nicholas Church. Guided walk in areas not usually accessible to the public. Adults £2.50, children £1. Includes a cup of tea or soft drink on return. Cake available. Telephone 01460 55965 for more details.

MONDAY MAY 2ND

CREWKERNE: Garden Open at Wayford Manor from 2-5pm. Admission £4, children free. Dogs allowed, plants for sale.

WEDNESDAY MAY 4TH

CLAPTON: Sew, Knit & Natter at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall. From 10.30am. All welcome, details from 01460 72837.

TATWORTH: Scrapbooking workshop at Tatworth Memorial Hall from 1pm - 5pm. Telephone 01460 220198 for more details.

CREWKERNE: Folk Music Club at Kings Arms from 8pm - 10pm. All welcome to join in and play an acoustic instrument, sing or recite poetry. Telephone 01460 271541 for more details.

WEDNESDAY MAY 4TH - SATURDAY MAY 7TH

CREWKERNE: Confusions by Auckbourn at the Victoria Hall from 7.30pm nightly. Organised by CUDOS. For more details and tickets call 01460 74380.

THURSDAY MAY 5TH

CLAPTON: C&W Film Society Free Film Night, showing 'Chico & Rita' from 8pm at the Village Hall. Free film and opportunity to join the society for 2011/12 season at reduced price. Doors/refreshments from 7.30pm. Telephone 01460 74849 or 77062 for more details.

FRIDAY MAY 6TH

DONYATT: May Supper and Auction Of Promises at the Village Hall from 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets £8, including delicious 2 course supper, followed by tempting auction lots! (Including weekend in France, week in Cornwall). Telephone 01460 53297 / 53861 for tickets or more details.

SATURDAY MAY 7TH

NORTH PERROTT: Concert by Yeovil Youth Choir at St Martin's Church from 7pm. Tickets £6.50, under 18s free, to include light supper and wine or juice. In advance if possible to assist catering, available from 01460 72883, 76457 or 76214.

CREWKERNE: Crewkerne and District Museum welcome, everyone to a Coffee Morning from 10am - 12noon at the Museum, East Street.

HORTON: South Somerset Branch of Embroiderers Guild meeting at Horton Village Hall. New members welcome who are interested in any kind of work with textiles. Workshop on 'Picture Framing'. Telephone 01460 261241 for more details.

CLAPTON: Jumble & Plant Sale at the Village hall. Tombola and refreshments. From 2pm. All welcome. Hall open for contributions for 10am - midday. Telephone 01460 72324 for more details.

SOUTH PETHERTON: Avon & Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir concert at the Church of St Peter & St Paul. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. Licensed bar. Tickets cost £6, availble by calling 01460 241977 or 241762, or from N&D News in South Petherton

SUNDAY MAY 8TH

CHEDINGTON: Gardens Open, Plant Stall, teas in the Village Hall. From 2 - 5.30pm. Organised by the Village Hall Committee. Telephone 01935 891240 for more details.

MONDAY MAY 9TH

TATOWORTH: Open evening for would be Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at Tatworth Memorial Hall from 6pm to 8pm. Telephone 01460 52660 for more details.

FRIDAY MAY 13TH

CLAPTON: Luncheon Club from midday for 12.30pm start at the Village Hall. Please book. To book or for more details call 01460 77057.

FRIDAY MAY 13TH AND SATURDAY MAY 14TH

CHARD: Chard Museum will be open for the national 'Museums at Night' event until 8pm on both days. A tombola will run, and there will be a bric-a-brac and second hand book stalls. Normal admission charges will apply.

SATURDAY MAY 14TH

CREWKERNE: Coffee Morning for Cancer Research UK at the Henhayes Centre. Cake stall and raffle. From 9.30am - 12.30pm.

HINTON ST GEORGE: Flix in the stix presents 'The Way Back' (12A) at the Village Hall from 7.30pm. Tickets £5 in advance from the Village Shop, Dorothy's Tearoom, or £5.50 on the door. Telephone 01460 72906 for more details.

BARRINGTON: Plant Sale at Barrington Village Hall from 10am - 12noon. Telephone 01460 53323 for more details.

SEAVINGTON: Seavington Gardening Club Annual Plant Sale at the Millennium Hall from 10am to 11.30am. Entrance free, raffle and refreshments available. Doors open 8.30am for Plants.

ILMINSTER: Cygnet Pre-School Baby and Toddler Goods Sale from 10am - 12noon in Greenfylde School Hall. Anyone who has good quality second-hand clothing for 0-5s, buggies, baby equipment, toys or books which they would like to sell should contact Ruth on 01460 52527 or rhmoran@tiscali.co.uk. Sellers get to keep 50% from the sale of their items with the remainder going to the pre-school. There will be no admission charge on the day and all browsers and bargain lovers are very welcome.

SUNDAY MAY 15TH

DONYATT, ILMINSTER: Lemon Vintage Fair at the Village Hall from 10am - 3pm. Free entry. All day refreshments. Vintage items, collectibles, memorabilia, tools, kitchenware, retro, books, records, quality clothes. Interested in having a stall? Contact 01460 57386 or 07836593019 for more details.

WEDNESDAY MAY 18TH

DRIMPTON: Clapton, Wayford & District Horticultural Society's monthly meeting at Drimpton Village Hall. Talk 'Cultvating herbs', and practical session by Becky Groves. Open to all, refreshments available. New members always welcome. Telephone 01308 868843 for more details.

TATWORTH: Talk: The Mystery of Mediumship. A Tatworth Memorial Hall from 2pm. Telephone 01460 220198 for more details.

WEDNESDAY MAY 18TH - SATURDAY MAY 21ST

ILMINSTER: The Ilminster Entertainments Society presents a murderous double bill of "The Real Inspector Hound" by Tom Stoppard and "What Shall We Do With The Body by Rae Shirley at The Warehouse Theatre, Brewery Lane, Ilminster. The shows start at 7.30p.m. and tickets are available from Lane's Garden Shop, Ilminster or the Theatre Box Office 07943 779880. For further details of events at The Warehouse please visit www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk

FREE weekenderlife

South Somerset Diary Dates *listings form*

Event .....

Date .....

Time .....

Venue .....

Town Village .....

Organised by ..... Tel No .....

Send your Diary Dates listings to: Lyme Media and Events, Unit 3, St Michael's Business Centre, LYME REGIS, Dorset DT7 3DB. **fax:** 01297 444981, **or e-mail:** rob@pemedia.co.uk

PLEASE NOTE: This is a free service and whilst we endeavour to include all entries, we cannot guarantee all listings submitted will be published. Please use one form per event you wish to submit.

WE ARE UNABLE TO TAKE DIARY DATES LISTINGS OVER THE PHONE
Deadline for postal / e-mail entries is Wednesday, 12noon

Going Out Film

This week's new releases

THOR 12A

MARVEL Studios expands its film universe with a new type of superhero: THOR. This epic adventure spans the Marvel Universe; from present day Earth to the realm of Asgard. At the centre of the story is The Mighty Thor, a powerful but arrogant warrior whose reckless actions reignite an ancient war. Thor is cast down to Earth and forced to live among humans as punishment. Once here, Thor learns what it takes to be a true hero when the most dangerous villain of his world sends the darkest forces of Asgard to invade Earth. Kenneth Branagh directs this fantasy epic which stars Australian actor Chris Hemsworth as the ancient Norse god, Tom Hiddleston as his evil brother Loki, Natalie Portman as Jane Foster, a young woman who befriends Thor on Earth, and Anthony Hopkins as Odin, Thor's father and king of Asgard. Expect to see agents of S.H.I.E.L.D., previously seen in "Iron Man," to make an appearance, further forshadowing the coming of The Avengers!

INSIDIOUS 15

FROM the creators of Saw and Paranormal Activity, terrifying new horror Insidious sees parents Renai and Josh Lambert move into a new house with their three children. A series of paranormal occurrences hit the family, leaving the Lambert's son Dalton in a coma. Believing that the house is haunted, they move out. But the problems persist, and a paranormal specialist confirms that Dalton has the ability to astral project, and is in The Further, a parallel spirit world full of evil lost souls. Dalton's father Josh, also with the ability faces the task of entering this dark place to rescue his son. But it's not so simple...

THE VETERAN 15

SOLDIER Robert Miller returns home from Afghanistan unable to fit back into society.

Living on a violent council estate and finding work in undercover surveillance, he becomes obsessed with taking down a group of local gangsters who are intrinsically tied to a suspected terrorist cell. Taking the situation into his own hands, Robert embarks on a brutal quest for justice, with devastating consequences.

Starring BAFTA winner Toby Kebbell in a career-defining performance as Robert, the film also stars multiple award winner Brian Cox and Ashley Thomas. Evocative of 70's classics such as Taxi Driver and Day of the Jackal, while packing a modern urban punch, The Veteran is a powerful and thrilling insight into the mind of a man who refuses to back down.

Forthcoming Events in Chard Guildhall

EVERY Sunday 10:30 am
FOREFRONT COMMUNITY CHURCH
Church Service - All welcome

Monday 9th May 9.00am to 4.00pm
LIFELINE SCREENING
on Preventive Medical Screening for risk of stroke, heart disease, osteoporosis for over 50's. For appointments call 0808 168 0028
www.lifelinescreening.co.uk

Every Tuesday 9.30am, 11.30am, 5.30pm and 7.30pm
SLIMMING WORLD
Lose weight the extra easy way.
Come along and find out how.

Every other Wednesday, next meeting 11th May.
10:30am - 12:30pm
MEMORY CAFE
Friendly and informal gathering for information, support and Social contact for people affected by dementia

Every Wednesday 7.30pm - 9.15pm
MEETING VOICES in the Town Hall
Song workshops for all "if you can speak you can sing"
Come and join us

Every Thursday, except 5th May, 9.00am - 2.00pm
ANTIQUES FAIR
Books, china, jewellery & much more
Now also available for Food and Craft stallholders
Customer admission free, refreshments and lunches available
For further information contact 01460 239 567

Every Thursday, except 5th May 7:45 pm to 8:30 pm
ZUMBA FITNESS
Exciting latin moves.
A fun based fitness party workout
For Information call 07738014409 or
email zumbasom@hotmail.com

Thursday 26th, Friday 27th and Saturday 28th May 7.30pm
plus matinee on Saturday at 2.30pm
CLOKS presents 'Archibalds War'
a WW2 musical drama
Tickets available from Barons

Saturday 14th May
10.00 am - 11.00 am
COUNCILLOR'S SURGERY

Saturday 7th May 9.00am to 12.30pm
POPULAR FAYRE
in the Guildhall
Admission free, refreshments available

Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturdays 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
CHARD TOWN COUNCIL RECEPTION

We have many other events taking place.
For further details please contact
Chard Town Council, The Guildhall, Chard
Tel: 01460 239 567
WWW.CHARD.GOV.UK

CINEMA LISTINGS

Friday, April 29th - Thursday, May 5th

ALL LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

YEOVIL CINEWORLD

Yeo Leisure Park, Old Station Rd
Tel: 0871 200 2000
www.cineworld.co.uk

Fast & Furious 5 12A
Fri, Mon: 11.45, 12.40, 14.30, 15.40, 17.15, 18.20, 20.00, 21.00
Sat: 11.45, 12.40, 14.30, 15.40, 17.15, 20.00
Sun: 11.45, 12.40, 14.30, 15.40, 17.15, 18.20, 21.00
Tue-Thu: 12.40, 14.30, 15.40, 17.15, 18.20, 20.00, 21.00

Arthur 12A
Daily: 15.00, 17.30, 20.00

Thor *in 3D* 12A
Fri-Mon: 12.20, 15.00, 17.40, 18.40, 20.20, 21.20
Tue-Thu: 15.00, 17.40, 18.40, 20.20, 21.20

Beastly 12A
Fri-Mon: 11.15, 13.15, 15.15, 17.15, 19.15, 21.15
Tue: 13.15, 15.15, 17.15, 19.15, 21.15
Wed & Thu: 13.15, 15.15, 17.15, 19.15

Scre4m 15
Fri-Tue: 19.00, 21.30
Wed & Thu: 21.30

Hop U
Fri-Mon: 11.45, 14.00, 16.15
Tue-Thu: 14.00, 16.15

Rio *in 3D* U
Fri-Mon: 11.00, 13.30, 15.45, 18.00
Tue-Thu: 13.30, 15.45, 18.00

Simon Rattle - A Musical Journey *in 3D*
Mon: 19.00

Water For Elephants 12A
Wed & Thu: 12.40, 15.20, 18.00, 20.40

Rio *in 2D* U
Fri-Mon: 12.15, 14.30, 16.45
Tue: 14.30, 16.45

Jamie Cullum: Solo
Sun: 20.15

Il Trovatore
Sat: 18.00

Thor *in 2D* 12A
Fri-Mon: 11.20, 14.00, 16.50, 19.30
Tue-Thu: 14.00, 16.50, 19.30

Cedar Rapids 15
Daily: 20.15

Insidious 15
Fri, Sun, Mon: 11.15, 13.40, 16.00, 18.30, 21.15
Sat: 13.40, 16.00, 18.30, 21.15
Tue-Thu: 13.40, 16.00, 18.30, 21.15

Red Riding Hood 12A
Daily: 12.35

Arthur and his Greatest Adventures U
Sat: 10.00

Animals United *in 2D* U
Sat: 10.10

Ramona and Beezus U
Sat: 10.20

TAUNTON ODEON

Heron Gate, Riverside
Tel: 0871 22 44 007
www.odeon.co.uk

Contact cinema directly for up-to-date listings

LYME REGIS REGENT

Broad Street, Lyme Regis
Tel: 0871 230 3200
www.scottcinemas.co.uk

Thor *in 3D* 12A
Fri: 17.20, 20.00
Sat-Mon: 14.45, 17.20, 20.00
Tue-Thu: 20.00

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CRICKET ST THOMAS HOTEL

A fine leisure hotel set in a beautiful Somerset Valley

Cricket St Thomas Lakes & Gardens
Open every day from Good Friday to September
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Entry £4.95 per person
Entrance is through the Leisure Club
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or a
Cream or Afternoon Tea in Hamilton's
in Cricket House
Enquiries and lunch reservations -
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Warner Leisure Hotels

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★ Tours/Masterclasses available in May, June, July, Sept. & Oct. ★

Prices start from £295.00 incl dinner, bed & breakfast (£190.00 excluding dinner, bed & breakfast).

★ Please contact us for a brochure ★

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KIRSTY MCGEE AND THE HOBOPOP COLLECTIVE
Friday 29th April. 6.30pm for 7.00pm
8pm. Tickets: £12. £20 with pre-show supper (at 7pm)
With a style that defies categorisation, Kirsty has twice been nominated fro BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards. Described as a 'cult singer-songwriter', she has an astonishing voice, equally comfortable in dark, intimate ballads and up-tempo carny-shuffle numbers.

12X2 AUCTION AND DINNER
Saturday 30th April. 6.30pm for 7.00pm
Tickets £17.50
Artists have donated artworks for this auction to raise money for Ilminster Arts Centre. Sealed bids can be made until 29th April. The exhibition continues until 7th May.

Friday 29th April: Closed (open in the evening for concert)
Saturday 30th April: Open 9.30am-2.30pm
(also open in evening for concert)
Sunday 1st May: Closed
Monday 2nd May: Craft Shop and Galleries: 9.30am-2.30pm.
Café: 10am-2pm.

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Going Out Gigs

Imran Yusuf's debut tour comes to Taunton

STAR of Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow and Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee ***Imran Yusuf*** hits the road for his eagerly awaited debut tour. Renowned for his super-high energy performance, Imran has a unique voice stamping his mark for positive, uplifting comedy at every turn.

He comes to Taunton's Brewhouse Theatre on Wednesday, May 18th at 8pm. Tickets cost £12 (£10 for concessions) and can be booked by calling the box office on 01823 283244 or by visiting www.thebrewhouse.net.

THIS WEEK'S CDS

THIS MODERN GLITCH ***The Wombats***
INDIE pop merchants The Wombats return with the follow up to their debut album *'…A Guide To Love, Loss and Desperation'.*

With a slightly more electronic and dance-y feel, yet maintaining the killer hooks and sing alongs that their debut was famed for, and also adding more raw emotion, this will propel the band back into the public eye.

YOU CAN'T TEACH AN OLD DOG NEW TRICKS ***Seasick Steve***
American blues icon Seasick Steve returns with new album 'You can't teach an old dog new tricks' just in time for the festival season.

HARD BARGAIN ***Emmylou Harris***
Country Music Hall Of Famer Emmylou Harris releases 'Hard Bargain' featuring predominantly self-penned tunes, featuring tributes to close friends Gram Parsons ('The Road') and Kate McGarrigle ('Darlin' Kate'). Classic Nashville country sounds are what this is all about.

ALL AT ONCE ***Airborne Toxic Event***
American Indie rockers Airborne Toxic Event release their second studio album 'All At Once'. Produced by Dave Sardy (Oasis, Band of Horses, LCD Soundsystem). Featuring the singles 'Changing' and 'Numb', the album is a confident step into the mainstream, mixing indie rock and their orchestral inspirations.

ELECTRIC LOVE ***Dirty Vegas***
Dirty Vegas' new release Electric Love is a concise and exhilarating slice of indie electro pop. The Grammy-award winning trio, made famous by their smash 'Days Gone By', return after a five years absence, but don't think they are reverting to their old sound. The band is back with a fresh new sound that would be more welcomed in a basement house party than a glossy hotel lobby.

THIS WEEK'S DVDS

BURLESQUE [12A]
ALI is a small-town girl with a big voice who escapes hardship and an uncertain future to follow her dreams to LA. After stumbling upon The Burlesque Lounge, a majestic but ailing theater that is home to an inspired musical revue, Ali lands a job as a cocktail waitress from Tess, the club's proprietor and headliner.

Burlesque's outrageous costumes and bold choreography enrapture the young ingenue, who vows to perform there one day. Soon enough, Ali builds a friendship with a featured dancer, finds an enemy in a troubled, jealous performer and garners the affection of Jack, a bartender and fellow musician. With the help of a sharp-witted stage manager and gender-bending host, Ali makes her way from the bar to the stage. Her spectacular voice restores The Burlesque Lounge to its former glory, though not before a charismatic entrepreneur arrives with an enticing proposal.

THE TOURIST [12A]
STARRING A-List superstars Johnny Depp (Pirates of the Caribbean) and Angelina Jolie (Salt), The Tourist is an edge-of-the-seat action-adventure, set against the breathtaking backdrop of Paris and Venice. When Frank (Depp) crosses paths with the mysterious and seductive Elise (Jolie), his holiday takes an unexpected and dangerous turn. When armed assassins chase him from his hotel room in a hail of bullets, Frank begins to understand that he and Elise have been drawn into a deadly game of cat and mouse. As the net begins to close around them, Frank soon realizes that to escape with his life, he will have to learn to fight back.... or die.

STREET WARS [15]
STEVEN Seagal (Under Siege, Machete) stars as Elijah Kane, the head of a crack undercover police unit ridding the Seattle streets of its deadly criminals.

Kane and his team are in a race against the clock to bring to justice the coldblooded gang who is behind the lethal drug that is raising the body count of young people in city. To make matters worse, Kane's unit is ordered to protect a filmmaker who's set on exposing the city's most dangerous city slums at any cost... Even if it means risking the lives of Kane's hard-knock team.

ANIMALS UNITED [U]
A group of animals waiting for the annual flood they rely on for food and water discover that the humans, who have been destroying their habitats have built a dam for a leisure resort. The animals endeavour to save the delta and send a message to the humans not to interfere with nature.

children's hospice SOUTH WEST

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To advertise your vacancy call Marie on 01297 446153 or email marie.austin@pemedia.co.uk

WEEKENDER NEWSPAPERS

We have the following vacancy:

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£15,000-£18,000 (depending on experience) plus commission.

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Applicants should have previous sales experience, not necessarily in publishing, and be of smart appearance. We are looking for highly motivated and enthusiastic individuals with an acceptable level of written presentation, spelling and numeracy with keyboard skills and a full, valid driving licence. The successful candidates will be able to identify and target new business whilst maximising the spend of existing clients. They will produce effective advertising copy and feature ideas that generate response for the client. They will require excellent communication and negotiation skills, be able to remain calm under pressure and deliver an acceptable standard of service to our customers.

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We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all sections of the community

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E-mail: pemedia@pemedia.co,uk
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To apply send your CV and covering letter to Danielle Grinter, Metaltech Precision Ltd, Chard Junction, Chard, Somerset, TA20 4QR or by email to danielle@metal-tech.com

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£7 PER HOUR TO START, 46 HOUR WEEK BETWEEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 6AM-6PM. Any previous engineering experience is preferred but not essential as full training can be given. Will involve working in either the CNC Turning or CNC Milling section operating CNC turning centres and/or mills. Would be working to supplied drawings and job instructions to produce quality components 'first time every time.' Responsibilities will be to meet or improve required run rates as per job instructions, ensure every job is clocked onto and time recorded, be a basic problem solver, inspect components to ensure that it meets customers drawing requirements, complete any shop floor paperwork and house keeping in your area. Company benefits include a Pension scheme, child care vouchers and company profit sharing scheme.
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weekenderclassified

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Name .....
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Telephone No .....
Number of issues required .....

Please send the form when completed along with a cheque for the appropriate amount to Lyme Media & Events Ltd, Unit 3, St Michael's Business Centre, Church Street, Lyme Regis, Dorset DT7 3DB. All copy to be received by 12 noon on Wednesdays. Should you require the advertisement to appear for more than one week the cost should be multiplied accordingly by the number of issues. This excludes recruitment, motoring and leisure adverts.

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PACKARD bell 16" monitor / keyboard, computer deck, office chair £45 or will split 01305 816585
MOBILITY scooter for sale older model but in VGC recent service etc £250 01460 75789
MOTHERCARE travel cot in box, unopened £20 01823 480846
DOREMA drive away awning 2m x 3m 700 £165 ono green canvas toilet tent £12 01460 76426
BELLING format electric cooker 60cm wide £150 blue white gazebo £20 cane headboard £10 07766 772655
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2003 53 Ford Focus 1.8 LX, Manual, 78,200 miles, 2 owners, Extensive service history, ABS, PAS **£3,295**

2003 03 Renault Clio 1.2 Authentique, Petrol, 49,100 miles, 3 owners, Service History, ABS, PAS **£2,995**

2002 52 Renault Clio 1.2, 5 Door, 81,000 Miles, Air Con, Sunroof, Multi Air Bags **£2,495**

2002 02 Skoda Fabia 1.9 SDi Classic, DIESEL, Manual, 82,000 miles, 2 owners, Service history **£2,995**

2001 51 Citroen Saxo 1.1, 5 door, 74,500 miles, low tax and insurance, ideal first car **£1995**

2001 51 Citroen Saxo 1.4i Furio, Manual, 67,500 miles, MOT-12-2011, 2 owners, Service history, PAS **£2,295**

2001 Y Ford Fiesta 1.25 Freestyle, Manual, 77,000 miles, Extensive service history, PAS, Alloy wheels **£1,995**

2001 X Citroen Saxo 1.1, 3 door, 56,350 miles, CD/Radio, Low tax and insurance **£1595**

2001 X Ford Mondeo 1.8 Verona, 98,895 miles, air con, alloys, metallic blue **£1595**

2000 X Renault Clio 1.2 Grande, 3 door, 63,300 miles, PAS, twin airbags, ideal first car **£1995**

2000 X Toyota Avensis 1.8 GS Estate, 105,500 miles, clean and tidy, PAS, twin air bags **£1795**

1998 R BMW 318 SE, 69,700 miles, superb condition, air con, alloys, extensive history **£1695**

1998 R Ford Fiesta 1.25 LX, 68,000 miles, PAS, electric windows **£1395**

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Über Corsa fires salvo at UK hot-hatch class

- *Max power now up to 205PS*, torque to 280Nm*
- *Mechanical LSD for optimum traction*
- *Significant upgrades to both chassis and brakes*

THESE are the first official pictures of Vauxhall's most powerful Corsa ever, the new VXR Nürburgring Edition, which goes on sale in late May and aims to raise the bar in the hot-hatch class for performance and dynamics.

At the heart of the Nürburgring is a reworked version of the Corsa VXR's existing 1.6-litre turbocharged engine which now produces 205PS* at 5,750rpm (up from 192PS) and 250-280Nm of torque (up from 230-266Nm). A modified engine management and turbocharger system, sports exhaust with reduced back pressure - and the ability to run on 98-octane fuel - have all contributed to the rise in power.

To harness the Nürburgring's new-found power potential, Vauxhall has fitted it with a mechanical, multi-plate limited-slip differential, ensuring that its 205PS doesn't go up in a cloud of tyre smoke, and providing the car with optimum traction at all times. The LSD also reins in understeer caused by excessive throttle loads during cornering, or changes in the texture of the road surface.

But perhaps the icing on the Nürburgring's cake is its chassis, which received its final sign-off at the Nürburgring's notorious Nordschleife, or North Loop. Vauxhall commissioned Bilstein to develop bespoke spring and damper units for the new model, allowing drivers an even higher degree of control and involvement. A visual clue of this work is a ride height which is reduced by 20mm at the front and 15mm at the rear.

Complementing this are newly developed Brembo brakes, which are 30 per cent lighter than before, and have high-performance brake linings covering a 10 per cent larger area. In addition, the Corsa VXR's ABS, Traction Control and Electronic Stability Control systems have all been recalibrated to take into account the Nürburgring's new set-up.

With performance of 0-60mph in just 6.5 seconds and a top speed of 143mph, the Corsa Nürburgring will deliver all the driving thrills you'd expect from a car wearing the legendary track's name. But just in case anyone was in doubt, the new model gets a raft of visual identifiers: a stainless steel dual exhaust, newly designed forged aluminium wheels in high-gloss grey, and 'Nürburgring' logos on the B-Pillars and front spoiler lip. There are also two new colours available – apple green 'Grasshopper' and red 'Henna'.

Inside, black and red 'Nürburgring' lettering adorns the sill plates and front Recaro seat backs, with bespoke white stitching on all seats, as well as the handbrake and gearshift console.

The Corsa VXR Nürburgring Edition goes on sale in late May, priced at £22,295.

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01 51 Mazda Tribute V6 4WD Auto, Blue, Leather **£3795**
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08 58 Toyota Aygo Platinum 5Dr, Silver AC **£6995**
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07 57 Jaguar S-Type SE 2.7 TD, AUTO, DIESEL Grey, Leather **£15995**
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2004/04 VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.2 SXi, 5 Doors, Automatic, Hatchback, Petrol. 35,000 miles, Silver. 13 Months Warranty Included In Sale, Full Service History, One Previous Owner, Full MOT, Superb Example, Warranted Mileage **£3,495**

2001/51 BMW Z3 2.2, 2 DOORS, MANUAL, CONVERTIBLE, Petrol. 60,000 miles, Green. Full Service History, Full MOT, Two Previous Owners, Immaculate Throughout, Warranted Mileage, Alloy wheels, Electrically adjustable drivers seat….....**£4,995**

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2003/53 FORD FOCUS 2.0 ZETEC 5 DOOR, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol. 65,000 miles, Black. 13 Months Warranty Included In Sale, Superb Throughout, Full MOT, Air conditioning, Alloy wheels, Radio/CD **£2,995**

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2003 (03)	FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX, Black, pas, cl, ew, air con, ABS, alloys, 72,000 miles	£3,795
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2003 (03)	FORD FIESTA 1.3 LX, 5 door, Met Red, pas, cl, ew, cd, 78000 miles	£3,295
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2002 (02)	RENAULT SCENIC 1.2 AUTHENTIQUE, Blue, pas, cl, ew, aircon, abs, 59,000 miles	£2,995
2002 (02)	MG ZR+ 1.8, Met green, pas, cl, e/w, sr, CD, alloys, 85,000 miles	£2,495
2002 (02)	FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDi LX, Silver, pas, cl, e/w, air con, CD, alloys, ABS, 97,000 miles	£3,295

VANS

2008 (08)	VOLKSWAGEN TRANSPORTER T28 1.9 TDI PANEL VAN, White, side loading door, bulkhead, 40,000 miles	£8495 + VAT
2007 (57)	CITROEN DISPATCH 1.6 HDi, White, pas, remote cl, e/w, twin side doors, blue tooth and sat nav, 32,000 miles	£6,995 + VAT
2006 (06)	VOLKSWAGEN CADDY C20 1.9 TDI, Silver, pas, cl, side loading door, roof rack, 64,000 miles	£5,995 NO VAT

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It's virtually here! new Astra GTC a reality from June 7

Vauxhall announces production version of stunning GTC Paris concept

THESE first images of the GTC may show it in a virtual landscape, but as it races down an imaginary road, real test cars are now running final validation drives – that's right, the Astra GTC is officially a production reality.

And on June 7 – in just six weeks' time – Vauxhall will reveal full details about the GTC to coincide with its order books opening. Pricing, technology, equipment and powertrains will be laid bare, giving customers the chance to specify their ideal model and place an order early.

The first production version of the Astra GTC will then receive its world premiere at the Frankfurt Motor Show, on September 15, with first cars appearing in UK showrooms late autumn this year.

Based on last year's GTC Paris concept car, the production GTC will feature a 3-door body with dramatic proportions, yet will be capable of carrying five adults. It will feature the very best of Vauxhall's latest technology, as well as unique chassis features.

Some still missing out on DIY upturn

CAR DIY is on the increase, thanks no doubt in part to the financial squeeze, but an unnecessary fear of the unknown is preventing simple cost-saving DIY amongst many motorists, according to STP, the engine care and fuel additives specialist.

Lack of knowledge of routine maintenance, and a fear of engine complexity, prevents many motorists from conducting the simplest of DIY tasks, to help pin down running costs. As a result they are either paying large sums to get their cars serviced or even skipping the service altogether.

Significantly, Britain's younger motorists can be the least savvy about how to keep their car in best condition, as any parent of a recently-qualified driver will testify.

"The younger generation of motorists don't tend to subscribe en-masse to a preventative culture," said Veronica Fung, Brand Manager of STP, a company that, has engaged with generations of DIY enthusiasts throughout its 50-year history. "There is also a lack of knowledge on how to conduct simple maintenance procedures amongst the same group which can impede their engagement in DIY," she added.

Haynes, whose comprehensive range of DIY manuals has been the under bonnet companion of motorists for over five decades, agrees. According to Matthew Minter of Haynes; "There is undoubtedly a perception amongst motorists, apart from enthusiasts, that typical fuel-injected engines are too complex to touch. In reality, routine maintenance is normally no more taxing than in the past. Indeed, speaking as someone who has been doing his own routine maintenance for 30+ years, I would say it's normally a lot less taxing."

STP also suggests the addition of its Fuel Injector Cleaner or Diesel Injector Cleaner, to a tankful of fuel every 3,000 miles. The super-concentrated additive helps remove power-sapping combustion deposits that are created during normal running conditions in the injectors of fuel-injected engines. The regular usage of STP fuel additives aid starting, smoother running and delivers greater engine efficiency, which in turn will help improve fuel economy.

Both STP Fuel Injector Cleaner and Diesel Injector Cleaner are priced at just £5.49 for a 250ml bottle treatment lasting 3,000 miles, are suitable for engines of all types and ages, safe for catalytic converters, and are widely available nationwide via fuel forecourts and accessory shops.

For the full range of market-leading STP fuel additives and engine maintenance products, visit www.stp.eu/uk. To see the whole range of Haynes DIY Manuals and car maintenance guides, visit www.haynes.co.uk

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STREET SCENE

HOWARD LARCOMBE
(howard@pemedia.co.uk)
reporting on the
Perry Street League

All over bar the shouting - it's South Petherton's title

AFTER crushing crisis club Misterton 10-0 only Farway United stand between South Petherton and a sixth Premier Division title.

Jon Hayter moved to the head of the premier division goalscoring chart with five against Missy on Saturday.

A win against Farway United on their own Lightgate Lane turf will see Pethy crowned as champions. With victories in their last nine encounters against the Devonians - history suggests League official should start attaching the black and win ribbons to the trophy now.

Meanwhile the season has certainly turned sour for Misterton who have now conceded 29 goals in three games following a 5-0 defeat at Ilminster Reserves on Tuesday. Rumours are circulating that the Reserve team at Unity Lane may fold despite clinching promotion to Division Two next season.

The successful Ressies squad led by manager Adge Diment are thought to be considering upping sticks and landing at Drimpton or maybe even one of Diment's old haunts - Halstock.

Ilminster Reserves were also on the wrong side of a hiding. The Blues were thrashed 8-0 at Lyme Regis - their biggest defeat in three years.

At the foot of the table it's now any two from five for the drop. Two of those teams meet at Oxleaze tomorrow where West & Middle Chinnock will be aware that a draw against Perry Street maybe enough to keep them up.

Over at Slades Cross, if Combe Reserves can repeat their Challenge Cup Final result against Beaminster on Good Friday (2-1 win) they will be safe.

Meanwhile Barrington must look to end a run of one win in 11 when they entertain Ilminster Reserves in a crucial local-derby at Shelway Lane. Otherwise they could be on their way back down into Division one after just one season.

DIVISION ONE

WINSHAM United received a massive boost in the two horse race for the remaining Division One promotion place .

The Winsham players, having eased to a 5-1 win at Perry Street Reserves - with Tom Stead bagging a hat-trick, will have been elated to hear that rivals Millwey Rise had been beaten 4-0 by newly crowned champions Crewkerne Town.

A win against Charmouth, whose Division One status is hanging by a thread, at Bakers Field tomorrow will see Phil Loaring's side book their place alongside Crewkerne in the Premier Division next season.

Down at the wrong end of the table, a 3-0 defeat against Lyme Regis Reserves at the Davey Fort brought the curtain down on Thorncombe's four-year stint in Division One.

DIVISION TWO

SHEPTON Beauchamp, for so long favourites for the title will have to be content with a top two finish following Beaminster Reserves' 7-1 thrashing of Forton Rangers Reserves on Tuesday- a result which also confirmed Forton will be relegated.

But who will accompany Forton? Chard Rangers currently occupy the second spot, but a win against Forton tomorrow will increase the tension at Hawkchurch who entertain new Champs Beaminster and Crewkerne Rangers who have completed their fixtures.

Dowlish & Donyatt wrapped up their campaign in East Devon and in some style too; on Saturday coming back from two down to bag a point at Uplyme and last night winning 5-2 at Hawkchurch where Lee Mears notched a hat-trick.

DIVISION THREE

MARCO Quedas scored his 36 and 37th goals of the season but Luso-Chard, who had two men sent-off by referee Kevin Luesley, squandered a 2-0 lead and were beaten 3-2 by Chard United.

Down at the bottom Drimpton have survived after a shock 5-2 win over Crewkerne Reserves.

In-form Brian Tillotson took his recent tally to eight in three games with four in the 6-1 hammering of Farway Reserves who are another of the teams rumoured to be considering calling it a day.

DIVISION FOUR

THE destination of the Division Four Trophy is still very much in the balance with West & Middle Chinnock and Hinton going head-to-head. Both are already guranteed a top two finish.

Either way there will be a new name on the trophy which is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Both teams have tricky away fixtures tomorrow with Hinton at Chard United and the Chinnocks' heading off to Shepton

Boost for Winsham Utd

CUPS

THE Bill Bailey Cup is residing at Henhayes for the first time as goals from Dave John and Adam Swinnerton earned Crewkerne Town Reserves a 2-0 win over neighbours Misterton Reserves.

Chard United Reserves' hopes of winning the Reg Eglon Cup for the first time in their history ended with a 2-0 defeat in the Final at Misterton against Waytown Hounds who collected their first ever PSL silverware.

CHALLENGE CUP FINAL REVIEW

Beaminster 1 Combe Reserves 2

COMBE Reserves added to Beaminster's misery of missing out on the both the league title and the Dorset Intermediate Cup by upsetting the formbook to lift the Challenge cup for the third time in nine years.

Good Friday's Final at Forton was dominated by two superb goals by the Saints. First Dan O'Connor netted for the fourth game in succession - a glorious volley in the 39th minute after being picked out by Neil Parsons to give his side the lead at the break.

Then Matt Brown doubled the lead with what proved to be the winner with a precise finish before Ben Ward headeded a late consolation for the dejected Rainbows.

◆ Dan O'Connor

■ **EASTER PRESENT:** South Petherton became the first winners of the revamped Crewkerne Charity Cup when they defeated Lyme Regis 2-1 at Crewkerne Town's Henhayes on Easter Monday. Rich Hebditch scored both goals as Pethy came from behind to lift the 101-year-old trophy which is now played as a one-off game along the lines of the FA Community Shield. Inset; Player-manager Gordon Childs, fresh from his exploits in the London marathon, collects the antique trophy.

Photos by GAVIN DODGE

■ **GUESS THAT'S WHY THEY CALL IT THE BLUES**: Ilminster Reserves' striker Ian Masters chases down Lyme Regis defender John Matthews at the Davey Fort on Saturday. The Blues had a day to forget and were beaten 8-0 in the seaside sunshine. ***Photo by Howard Larcombe***

THE WEEK'S FIXTURES LIST

Saturday, April 30th

(All 2.30 unless stated)

PREMIER
Barrington v Ilminster Town Res
Combe Reserves v Beaminster
Farway United v Misterton
W & M Chinnock v Perry Street

DIVISION ONE
Forton Rangers v Crewkerne Town
Millwey Rise v Netherbury
Winsham United v Charmouth (2pm)

DIVISION TWO
Chard Rangers v Forton Reserves
Hawkchurch Utd v Beaminster Res
South Petherton Res v Pymore
Uplyme v Shepton Beauchamp

DIVISION THREE
Misterton Reserves v Drimpton
Winsham Res v Crewkerne Res (4.15pm)

DIVISION FOUR
Chard Utd Res v Hinton Reserves
Ilminster Town A v Combe B
Shepton Res v W & M Chinnock Res
Waytown Hounds v Barrington Res

Tuesday, May 3rd

(All 6.15pm unless stated)

PREMIER
Combe Reserves v Lyme Regis
South Petherton v Farway United

DIVISION TWO
Pymore v Chard Rangers

DIVISION THREE
Misterton Res v Lyme Bantams

DIVISION FOUR
Barrington Res v W & M Chinn Res
Chard Utd Res v Waytown Hounds

Thursday, May 5th

(All 6.15pm unless stated)

DIVISION TWO
S. Petherton Res v Forton Reserves

DIVISION FOUR
Combe B v Waytown Hounds

streetdigest

Midweek results

THURSDAY, APRIL 21st
BILL BAILEY CUP FINAL
(at Beaminster)
Crewkerne Res 2 (A.Swinnerton, D.John) Misterton Res 0.
DIVISION FOUR
Ilminster A 3 (R.Wilmott, J.House, L.Lazenby) Chard United Res 2 (L.Finn).
FRIDAY, APRIL 22nd
CHALLENGE CUP FINAL
Beaminster 1 (B.Ward) Combe Res 2 (D.O'Connor, J.newbury)
(at Forton)
MONDAY, APRIL 25th
REG EGLON CUP FINAL
Chard Utd Res 0 Waytown Hounds 2 (Correy, Read pen).
CREWKERNE CHARITY CUP FINAL
Lyme Regis 1 (og - J.Cattigan) South Petherton 2 (Hebditch 2, 1 pen)

League tables

PREMIER	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Petherton	18	16	1	1	91	17	49
Lyme Regis	18	14	3	1	69	18	45
Beaminster	18	12	3	3	48	17	39
Merriott Rovers	20	10	2	8	50	47	32
Farway United	18	7	3	8	44	37	24
Ilminster Town Reserves	18	8	0	10	28	51	24
W & M Chinnock	18	5	3	10	32	58	18
Combe Reserves	18	5	2	11	31	49	17
Perry Street	18	4	3	11	30	41	15
Barrington	18	3	4	10	32	64	13
Misterton	18	2	4	12	27	83	10

DIV ONE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crewkerne Town (Top)	19	16	2	1	89	23	50
Winsham United	19	15	0	4	70	23	45
Millwey Rise	19	14	2	3	90	28	44
Netherbury	19	12	2	5	48	34	38
Forton Rangers	18	10	2	6	45	42	32
Lyme Regis Reserves	19	7	3	9	36	42	24
Perry Street Reserves*	19	6	1	12	31	73	18
Ilminster Town Colts	20	5	1	14	37	70	16
Norton Athletic	20	5	1	14	31	71	16
Thorncombe (R)	20	4	1	15	28	63	13
Charmouth	18	3	1	14	28	64	10

DIV TWO	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beaminster Reserves (Top)	19	15	3	1	84	27	48
Shepton Beauchamp (Promoted)	17	11	5	1	57	20	38
Dowlish & Donyatt	20	12	2	6	60	34	38
Hinton Reserves	20	9	3	8	49	49	30
Uplyme	18	7	3	8	61	49	24
South Petherton Reserves*	17	7	3	7	38	38	23
Pymore	17	6	4	7	34	46	22
Crewkerne Rangers	20	5	4	11	42	70	19
Hawkchurch United	19	5	3	11	45	63	18
Chard Rangers	17	4	3	10	36	62	15
Forton Rangers Reserves (R)	18	2	3	13	27	75	9

DIV THREE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crewkerne Res (Promoted)	17	12	1	4	67	31	37
Misterton Res (Promoted)	14	11	2	1	55	26	35
Luso-Chard	18	9	3	6	68	36	30
Chard United	18	9	2	7	49	36	29
Combe A	18	8	2	8	46	46	26
Winsham United Reserves	16	7	3	6	59	54	24
Millwey Rise Reserves	17	6	3	8	43	42	21
Drimpton	16	4	3	9	28	69	15
Lyme Regis Bantams (R)	17	3	2	12	28	45	11
Farway Rangers Res* (R)	17	3	3	11	23	81	8

DIV FOUR	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hinton Reserves (promoted)	18	15	2	1	68	24	47
W&M Chinnock Res (promoted)	18	15	1	2	113	29	46
Waytown Hounds	16	10	1	5	48	32	31
Chard United Reserves	18	9	1	8	46	44	28
Combe B	18	8	3	7	50	50	27
Shepton Beauchamp Reserves*	18	9	1	8	48	52	27
Ilminster Town A*	18	8	0	10	56	61	23
Barrington Reserves*	18	7	3	8	48	49	22
Thorncombe Reserves	20	5	3	12	26	53	18
Hawkchurch United Reserves	20	3	3	14	29	86	12
Chard Rangers Reserves	20	2	2	16	25	77	8

(* = POINT DEDUCTED) (P/R; assuming 2 up 2 down)

Top scorers

PREMIER: Jon Hayter (South Petherton) 23, Julien Simier (Lyme Regis) 21, Scott Jennings (Ilminster Res, 16 for Merriott) , Murray Legg (Beaminster), Rich Hebditch (South Petherton) 17.

DIVISION ONE: Sam Dibling (Millwey Rise) 35, Tim Hussey (Hawkchurch United) 31, Jamie Spurdle (Crewkerne Town) 27.

DIVISION TWO: Sam Murley (Shepton Beauchamp), Josh Hunter (Beaminster Reserves) 30, Dan Pyett (Beaminster Reserves) 24.

DIVISION THREE: Marco Quedas (Luso-Chard) 37, Aaron Hodges (Crewkerne Res) 23, Adam Swinnerton (Crewkerne Res), Brian Tillotson (Winsham United Reserves) 22.

DIVISION FOUR: Ashley Cooper (W & M Chinnock Reserves) 41, Dan Rudge (W & M Chinnock Reserves) 33, Will Aplin (Shepton Beauchamp Reserves) 20.

RUGBY REVIEW

Sun shines on Chard glory

By **Keith Jenkin**

WHILE the season of most rugby clubs ends with a whimper, CHARD'S certainly ended with a bang, for they were involved in a play-off to determine who would join Weston Hornets from the Somerset Premier league, and Whitehall from the Gloucester Premier, in the Western Counties Division next term. This was not a game to miss and I trotted off to Chard on a real summer's day.

A visit to Chard is always good fun, and I had been in the ground but two minutes when I was accosted by no less a personage than Bill Golesworthy esquire.

He informed me that I had been calling the rugby ground by the wrong name for the last 15 years or so. I had been identifying it as the Dening Field but it seems that name refers to the cricket ground next door, and Chard play at 'The Park'. I took his comments on board, advised him to get a life, and, after we had exchanged further badinage, settled down to watch what was a very important game in the annals of the Chard club.

CHARD 32 OLD RICHIANS 12

CHARD played with the sun at their backs in the first-half and really got off to the best of starts. Their drop out ran loose, they won the ensuing ruck and their opponents were penalised for stepping off side.

Nicholls landed the penalty from the twenty two and the home side were 3-0 ahead before the game was a minute old. They had the chance to go six points ahead a couple of minutes later, but their kick from a wide angle shaved the wrong side of the upright.

The home side were having the better of the early exchanges, but Richians were defending well and also had a long kicker in their ranks, and his punts relieved the Chard pressure on more than one occasion early on, and in fact, throughout the whole game.

The end of the first quarter came with the scoreline unchanged, although the home side were looking the likelier outfit, thanks in no small part to the edge that they had established in the front five.

Chard got the score that I felt their play merited, on the half-hour, although the circumstances of the try were perhaps a little fortunate.

They sent the ball wide in their opponents' twenty two and Bennett mishandled. There was a call of knock on but the referee took a different view.

Winger Herbert was the first to react with the defence wrong footed and he got in some 15-yards in from touch. The try remained unconverted and Chard led 8-0 with half an hour gone.

A moment of Chard madness then enabled Old Richians to get back into the contest with a vengeance. A dropped pass on the home twenty two caused problems, and a kick through and chase ensued, with the visitors certainly winning the race to touch down. The ball beat everyone however and rolled over the dead ball line.

The referee then awarded a penalty try having spotted a push. I felt that a try would not have probably been scored, and that a visitors' penalty was the worst that could have befallen the home side.

The score stood however. The kick from in front was successful and the scoreline now stood at 8-7. Chard had to put this reversal behind them, and they certainly did so, with winger Herbert being pushed into touch just short after a good run.

Half-time came with the scoreline unchanged and nothing yet resolved. I did feel however that, although Chard had not been quite at their clinical best in the first half, they had very much the better of things and had allowed their opponents little useable possession with which to play.

Chard started the second-half as if they really meant it. They gained possession from their opponents' drop out and spun the ball wide for Douglas to make a scything break. I thought he would score himself, only for him to be hauled back by the seat of his shorts, just short. He found his winger Ben Stead in support however, and he got over in the corner for an unconverted try.

The home side had become much more clinical now, and another try followed a few minutes later. Full back Bennett scored it after Douglas had put him into space. Nicholls landed the conversion and, at 20-7, Chard had moved clear with half an hour left.

A third try followed soon after. Neil Douglas scored it himself after he had stepped his marker on the twenty two, accelerated into the gap and got in under the posts. Nicholls again added the extras and Chard were clear at 27-7 ahead.

Although Chard's surge in the third quarter had taken the result away from Old Richians, they kept competing. The home pack remained on top however and, although it was put under pressure, territorially speaking, for a space, it coped more than adequately and eventually turned over possession and took play back to halfway.

Richians came back however and, as the whistle for 'No Side' approached they found space down the narrow side close to the home line and got over out wide.

This try, unconverted as it remained, was really little more than a consolation however and the last score went to Chard. An adroit kick ahead had forced the visitors to concede a lineout close in. The home side, whose lineout had functioned well, won possession.

The maul formed and pushed a tiring visitors' eight back over their line, with flanker Helliar coming up with the ball. The conversion kick slid wide and there was only time for replacement prop Bond to get himself sin-binned for some skulduggery or other, before the final whistle went, leaving Chard ecstatic.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHARD! They were certainly the better side in most areas of the field. Their pack allowed their opponents little useable possession, and their outsides were much more penetrative, especially in the second half.

The side has played well all season and their promotion place was certainly won on merit. I do believe that this squad has the collective ability to make a real mark in the Western Counties Division next season.

■ **KING GEORGE 1st**: George Herbert stretches over for the opening try.

■ **CHEEKY**: Neil Douglas wriggles free from a tackle on his way to the third try.

■ **STEADY DOES IT**: Ben Stead touches down in the corner for try number two under the gaze of an interested four-legged spectator! ***Photos by KEITH RENDELL***

Crewkerne skittles

DIVISION ONE	Pld	Pts
Lost Boys	21	206
Headhunters	21	170
Super Sexy Six	21	168
Muddled Men	21	163
King Willy Dogs	21	138
The Fryers	21	130
Coachmen	21	121
Disney	21	106
Rollers	21	105
Royal Oak Drimpton	21	76
Sports 92	21	68
Swann Fokkers	21	54

DIVISION TWO	Pld	Pts
Football Club	21	161
Rug Rats	21	158
Pinbusters	21	147
Nomads	21	143
Brewers Bees	21	133
Skimmers	21	125
Coombe Boys	21	120
Swan Cobs	21	115
Loud & Proud	21	112
Concorde	21	112
Willy Low Flyers	21	97
Kings Head B	21	89

DIVISION ONE	Pld	Pts
Perrott Monkeys	21	165
Numpties	21	158
Royal Oak A	21	157
Swan Fixers	21	150
Con Club Legends	21	140
Chis Colts	21	126
Contwistadors	21	124
Motley Crew	21	120
Sandbaggers	21	114
Hung Like Horses	21	111
Dinnington Astros	20	62
Muppets	20	61

sportsdigest

Senior football

CHARD Town completed their Toolstation Division One campaign in fine style with back-to-back wins over the Easter Holiday to extend their superb end of season winning run to four games.

On Friday the Robins completed an impressive double over promotion chasing neighbours Bridport. Sam Clark and Adam Fricker scored the goals in a 2-0 win in front of a season's high attendance of 164.

Seventy two hours later teenager James Boyland scored his first hat-trick for the Robins' in a 3-1 win at basement boys Elmore.

Chard are now guaranteed a 13th place finish - three places better than the previous season.

TOOLSTATION DIV 1 (bottom)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Almondsbury	36	11	11	14	55	64	44
CHARD TOWN	**36**	**11**	**8**	**17**	**57**	**68**	**41**
Keynsham Town	36	9	8	19	45	61	35
Shepton Mallet	35	10	5	20	45	74	35
Roman Glass St George	34	9	6	19	39	74	33
Westbury United	35	9	3	23	43	78	30
Portishead Town	36	6	11	19	48	84	29
Elmore	34	5	2	27	45	119	17

(Max 36 games).

THE season is building up to an exciting climax for Chard Town Reserves.

With six games still to play Darren Stewart's side, currently third, are perfectly placed to land one of the two promotion places on offer.

Four of those matches are away from Zembard Lane beginning with trips to Dawlish Town tomorrow followed by Winkleigh on Monday.

The Easter period yielded four more points. Last Saturday Joe Carbin netted his eighth goal of the season but Chard were disappointingly held to a 1-1 draw by South Zeal. Two days later Greg Channing scored the winner as the Robins came from behind to beat Dawlish Town 2-1.

D & E DIVISION 3 (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Topsham Town Reserves	25	19	3	3	101	37	60
Pinhoe	25	17	4	4	95	34	55
CHARD TOWN RESERVES	**22**	**16**	**3**	**3**	**70**	**22**	**51**
Sandford*	22	15	3	4	77	46	46
Offwell Rangers*	24	14	2	8	61	40	43
Upottery	24	11	5	8	48	36	38
Lympstone	27	11	5	11	51	56	38

(Max 28 games)

ILMINSTER TOWN

BARRING several miracles of cataclismic proportions Ilminster Town will still be playing Somerset League Division One next season.

After a season spent firmly in the promotion running the wheels finally fell off on Monday when the free-scoring Bishop Sutton attack, which tops the division's goalscoring charts, breached the Ilminster defence four times at the 'Rec to end any lingering hopes of a top-two finish.

Realistically, the best the Blues can aim for is fourth.

SOMERSET DIVISION 1 (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Berrow	29	22	4	3	82	37	70
Nailsea Town	30	19	8	3	63	25	65
Odd Down Reserves	32	20	4	8	60	41	64
Weston St Johns	30	17	6	7	75	41	57
ILMINSTER TOWN	**30**	**16**	**6**	**8**	**48**	**36**	**54**
Frome Collegians	31	15	6	10	64	45	51

(Max 34 games)

COMBE ST NICHOLAS

IT'S a similar story down the road at Combe St Nicholas where the Saints will finish third in Division Two (West). This represents the club's best placed-finish since the League was revamped back in 2006-07.

Manager Ivor Hutchings' side finished the season in fine style with back-to-back away wins. On Saturday Dan Collins scored twice in the 3-1 win at Burnham United. On Wednesday bottom club Wrington Redhill were wrung dry to the tune of 6-1. Collins bagged a hat-trick, to take his recent tally to seven in three games, and there was a brace for Adam Tovey.

Afterwards Hutchings confirmed to WEEKENDER SPORTS that he would like to continue at the helm next season but added that there were a few things to iron out behind the scenes.

SOMERSET DIV 2 WEST (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yatton Athletic	25	17	4	4	83	41	55
COMBE St NICHOLAS	**26**	**15**	**6**	**5**	**52**	**36**	**51**
Congresbury*	23	17	5	1	59	16	49

(Max 26 games)

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Glovers In Focus

By Stuart Broom

Glovers struggle over the line

YEOVIL Town finally secured npower League One status on Easter Monday with a very creditable 2-2 draw at promotion candidates Peterborough United, but why has it taken so long?

After falling behind to two Danny Ings goals on Saturday against another promotion play-off hopeful AFC Bournemouth, Yeovil looked dead and buried. A man down after skipper Paul Huntingdon had been sent-off for a second yellow card five minutes after the interval, it looked like another defeat for the home supporters to endure.

However they were thrown an unexpected lifeline when Harry Arter inexplicably handled four minutes from the end, and in a stirring last eight minutes (including four added minutes) Terry Skiverton's men burst into life, and in a rousing finish Swan Shaun MacDonald rose to head home a magnificent equaliser.

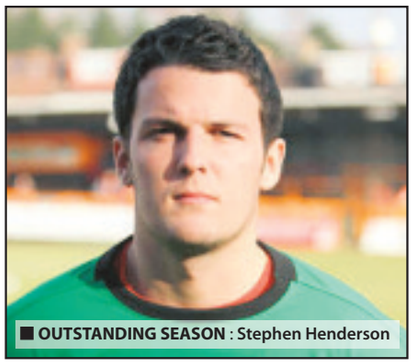
I guess it begs the question why haven't they shown the same determination and energy in many of the other recent home games?

In a number of cases they have started brightly, and after failing to take advantage of the chances they have created, ended up defending and ultimately conceding.

The pattern is so consistent at Huish Park, you wonder why the management have not done anything about it.

Ings, who had a superb three month loan period at Dorchester Town just before Christmas showed he had learned a lot in taking chances, the Cherries second goal a superb example of how to create and take chances.

In Sunday's papers Skiverton was critical of referee Steve Tanner for sending-off Huntingdon for a second yellow card. Ings clearly knew what he was doing when he pushed the ball past the Glovers captain and ran headlong into the central defender who could not get out of the way in time. I felt it was a foul but that a booking was not justified, and whilst I have some sympathy for him, if he had not got embroiled in the incident before half-time when Max Ehmer was unceremoniously upended by Arter and nothing to do with him, then he would have not been dismissed.



■ OUTSTANDING SEASON : Stephen Henderson

Monday's match showed that Yeovil can compete with the best in the league, and I thought they were unlucky to lose to two late goals in the reverse encounter with the Posh at Huish Park.

After first Paul Wotton witha penalty, and Andrew Tutte with an excellent curling low strike with the outside of his boot, and his first senior goal, had put the Glovers ahead twice it looked like they might have retained their League One status in style, but you cannot discount a good goalscorer at any level, and Craig Mackail-Smith popped up again to score his 31st goal of the season, to show what a valuable asset he is.

I am sure one or two of the club's staff particularly will be glad to know that I won't be at Saturday's last home game of the season as my grandchildren are hosting a joint birthday party, and they will therefore not have to endure my opinion on the match.

As a season ticket holder of over thirty years I do hope that next season I will be able to write more positive things about a club.

Incidentally my player of the year? Stephen Henderson. What a superb keeper he is; I think one of the best we have seen at the club.

His double save from a deflected Paul Taylor shot and Chris Whelpdale's follow up header against Peterborough must rank among the best, if not the best, he has made this campaign, and he has made some crackers.

Well done Stephen. Let's hope we see you back next season.

The early season cricket news

Crewkerne fall just short

East Coker 215-7 beat Crewkerne 212-8 by 3 runs

THE 2011 cricket season finally got underway for Crewkerne CC, with a pre-season friendly, as they travelled the short distance down the road to play in the picturesque setting of East Coker ***writes Hamish Hodder.***

Skipper Ashley Lawrence saw his charges put into the field against a youthful East Coker side and immediately the left arm opening bowling pairing of Rob Cornelius (2-38) and Dave Reakes (1-39), both made early breakthroughs, as aided by excellent catches by Rick Keylock in the slips and Jon Gould on the boundary, Crewkerne reduced East Coker to 19-3.

After the early breakthroughs East Coker consolidated and a 51 run partnership between H Brooks (26) and H Young guided the score to 70 before some excellent work in the field by Wayne Higgins ran Brooks out.

Francis Medley returning to play his first game for Crewkerne after nearly 15 years, showed great character to recover brilliantly from a nightmare first over which went for 18, to bowl 8 overs for 36, bowling with good pace and line.

H Young & T Kearvill guided the score onto 115, before the king of spin Mark Culpitt took his first victim of the season bowling Young for a well crafted 48.

Culpitt (3-33) then quickly accounted for T Kearvell for 27 and then accounted for another quick wicket with a good boundary catch by debutant Mike Brockwell, to again leave the hosts looking in trouble at 141-7.

However some solid lower order batting by L Tinsley (43no) helped guid the hosts to a competitive total of 215-7 from their 40 overs.

In reply Crewkerne got off to a flying start, with Jon Gould in particular peppering the very short pavillion boundary. and despite the loss of an early wicket with Nick Keylock anchoring the duo moved the score to 95 before Gould (69) was caught on the boundary, his vicious assault consisting off 11 fours and 3 sixes, with East Coker skipper A Young making the breakthrough.

A couple of quick wickets reduced Crewkerne's early charge to 103-4, but with Nick Keylock gradually starting to find his shots and with some big hitting from Higgins (29) the duo rattled up a 58-run partnership, before Higgins was clean bowled by A Young (2-30).

Skipper Lawrence came to the crease knowing a Captain's innings was required and again with a mixture of good running and big hitting the duo seemed to be guiding Crewkerne close to victory, but Lawrence's dismissal for 21 in the penultimate over proved decisive.

With 14 required off the final over, despite the best efforts of Nick Keylock with a fine effort of 56no, Crewkerne came agonisingly close to victory but sadly the elusive final boundary couldn't be found, and East Coker edged a thrilling game of cricket played in excellent spirit by both teams by three runs, although for all concerned it was a good warm-up for the new season to come.

Bowls round-up

SEVERALLS *with Ken Robbins*

SEVERALLS played at Yeovil on Tuesday, April 19th on yet another glorious day and at 15 ends the scores were equal *writes Ken Robbins*.

Unfortunately we were unable to keep up the pressure and at the final end lost by 29 shots 57 -86. It was a very enjoyable game particularly as it was the first full club friendly game we have played there.

Rink scores: M.Rawe, S.Phinn, P.Robbins, K.Robbins 12 M.Martin 25. N.Austin, N.Patel, S.Rees, D.Rees 17 K.Porter 17. M.Robins, H.Leamon, A.Larcombe, W.Gilbert 12 B.Colvin 22. M.Gilbert, T.Robins, Ann Larcombe, K.Leamon 16 S.Nicholson 22.

On Saturday we played at Westands, again in lovely weather. We lost a very friendly game by 20 shots 60- 80.

Rink Scores; N.Austin, T.Robins, D.Wallis, R.Hodder 23 B.Badman 12. M.Rawe, S.Phinn, H.Leamon, K.Leamon 11 G.Brown 25. C.Phinn, M.Robins, S.Rees, D.Rees 11 P.Tucker 25. N.Patel, L.Liddle, G.Chant, K.Robbins 15 D.Eustace 18.

On Sunday, April 25th the traditional game of Ladies versus Gents was played with a few gents posing as ladies for the afternoon. As usual a very competitive game followed with the ladies winning by just one shot.

◆ Severalls are holding an Open Day on Saturday, May 7th from 11am until 4pm when coaches will be available to assist anyone interested in trying the game.

Please wear flat shoes, other equipment will be supplied. Children must be accompanied by an adult, refreshment's are available during the day.

CHARD *with Penny Herrick*

SHORT MAT

On Thursday, April 21st, members of the Chard Bowling Club travelled to Curry Mallet to take part in a friendly short mat bowling game. Curry Mallet Bowls Club have lovely facilities in a pretty setting and were very welcoming hosts.

Six games were played and, amazingly, at the end both sides finished with 53 shots. A splendid evening was enjoyed by all and Chard look forward to meeting Curry Mallet as their guests.

LAWN GREEN

Chard players are preparing to play their first outdoor game this season on Thursday when they travel to Wincanton.

sportsNOTICEBOARD

Free for local sports clubs - email howard@pemedia.co.uk

ILMINSTER YOUTH FOOTBALL

ILMINSTER Youth Football club are holding their annual meeting at the Shrubbery Hotal on Monday, May 16th at 7pm - For more details contact Alaine Mills on 07850 107674

ILMINSTER YOUTH FOOTBALL

CHARD Youth rugby club are on the look-out for players next season. For more information contact Kharon on 07837 123274 or Heidi on 07824 707099

ILMINSTER SKITTLES LEAGUE

Cup Finals dates.

Nomination Final - 5th May at Royal Oak, Ilminster 8.45pm start.

IDSL Cup Final - 12th May at Donyatt Bowling Club 8.45pm start.

ON THE SPOT...

WEEKENDER SPORT **puts Perry Street FC's RICHARD WARRY** ***UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT***

Q How long have you been involved in local football? Who have you played for?

A I'VE been playing Perry Street football for nearly 14 years, which is a bit scary, as until recently, I've always thought of myself as one of the young ones! 1997-2003 - Chard Town Colts, 2003-2006 - Forton Rangers, 2006-2009 - Perry Street, 2009-2010 - Merriott Rovers, 2010-2011 - Perry Street.

Q Name the three best players you've played alongside and why.

A DESPITE smoking about 60 fags a day and never training, **Phil Major** was a quality defender and always seemed to be the quickest man on the pitch. Publicly complimenting my younger brother doesn't come easy, so I'll make this one short and sweet and a little bit backhanded. Sheep-head (**Chris Warry**) - Quality centre-half, who always looks like he's got loads of time on the ball. **Andrew Board** – always able to change a game with one kick of the ball.

Q What's the best away ground you've played at?

A WHAT do you look for in a good away ground? A nice club house, with hot water, electricity, perhaps a bar and some friendly locals - not Farway, then! Seriously - Bridport Town, great surface and they even switched on half of the floodlights!

Q How would you improve things at the club?

A ABRAMOVICH'S wallet, Peter Crouch's Missus and a bottle of Mayonnaise for the post game chips! You'd think at least the latter would be possible?

Q Do any games stick out in your memory?

A I'm pretty sure it was the 1998-1999 season and we (Chard Colts) were playing in Division Two. The last game of the season was against Charmouth, whoever won, would be league champions. Charmouth needed to draw, we had to win, I'm not sure what the score line was, but I can remember that it was still a draw with about a minute to go. Having come close a number of times, hitting the bar and the post, the ball ended up at Rob Webb's feet. He instantly hit a 40(ish)-yard, rocket-powered toe-punt which took about four deflections and ended up in the top right-hand corner of the goal. He might describe it differently - but as they always say - they all count!

NEXT WEEK: *Crewkerne's* ***Kev Wheeler.***

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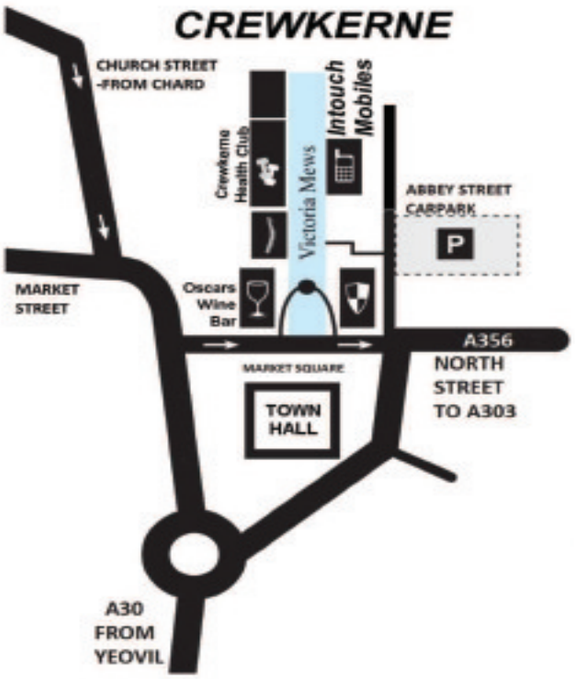
The Lord Chamberlain is commanded by
The Queen to invite

you to a street party at
Victoria Mews as a celebration

to the Marriage of
His Royal Highness Prince William of Wales, K.G.
with
Miss Catherine Middleton
at Westminster Abbey
on Friday, 29th April, 2011 at 11.00 a.m.

A reply is requested to
State Invitations Secretary, Lord Chamberlain's Office,
Buckingham Palace, London SW1A 1AA

Dress: Uniform, Morning Coat
or Lounge Suit



Everyone at Victoria Mews will be celebrating the Royal Wedding at the "street party in the Mews".

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